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*Salem Athenaeum from L. L. Waters Esq.*

GUIDE

TO THE

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD

L A N D S.

800,000 ACRES

OF THE

BEST FARMING LANDS,

FOR SALE BY THE

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY,

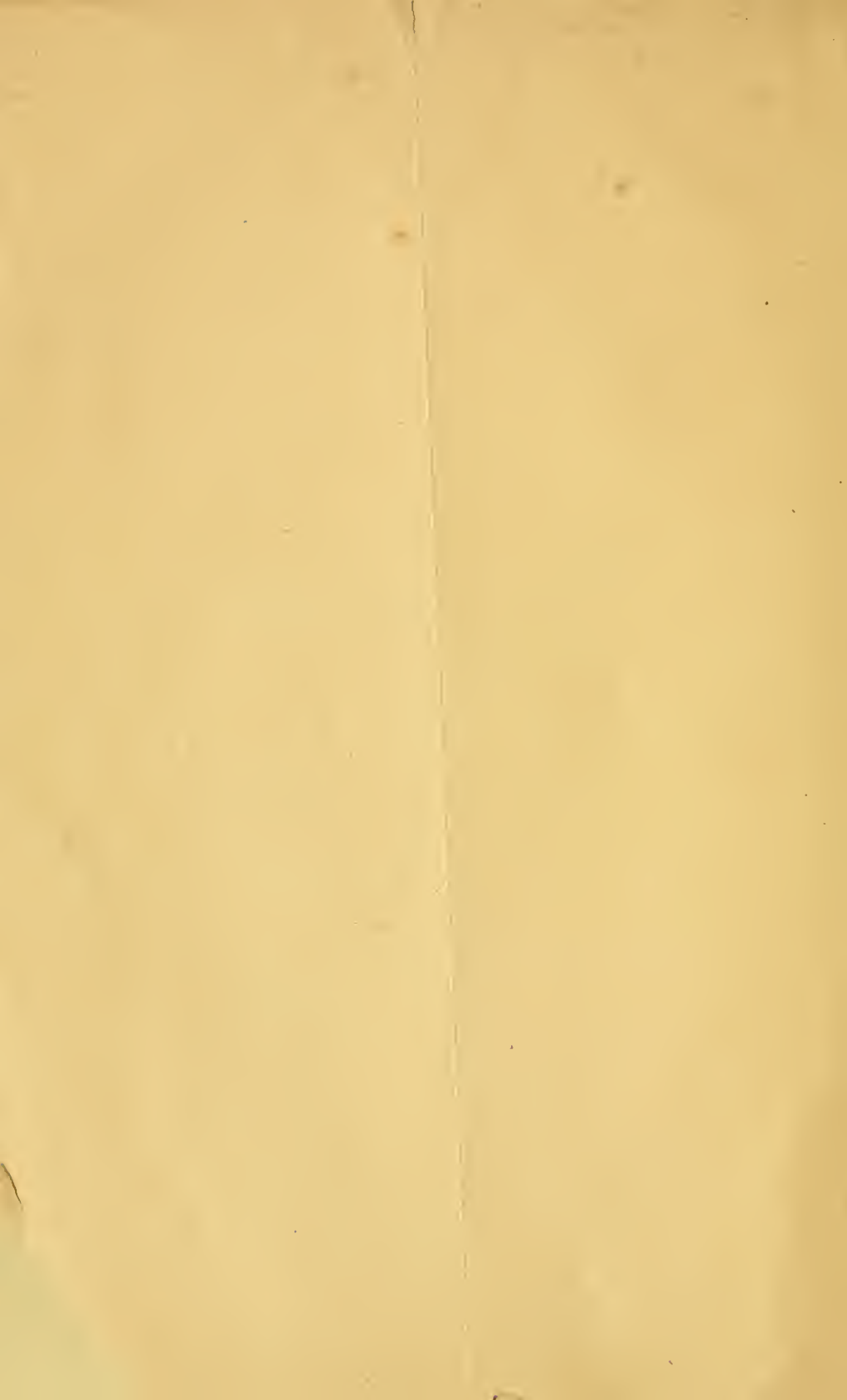
In Tracts to suit Purchasers, and at Low Prices.

CHICAGO:

LAND DEPARTMENT, ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY,

OPPOSITE THE GREAT CENTRAL DEPOT.

1868.





# OUTLINE MAP OF ILLINOIS

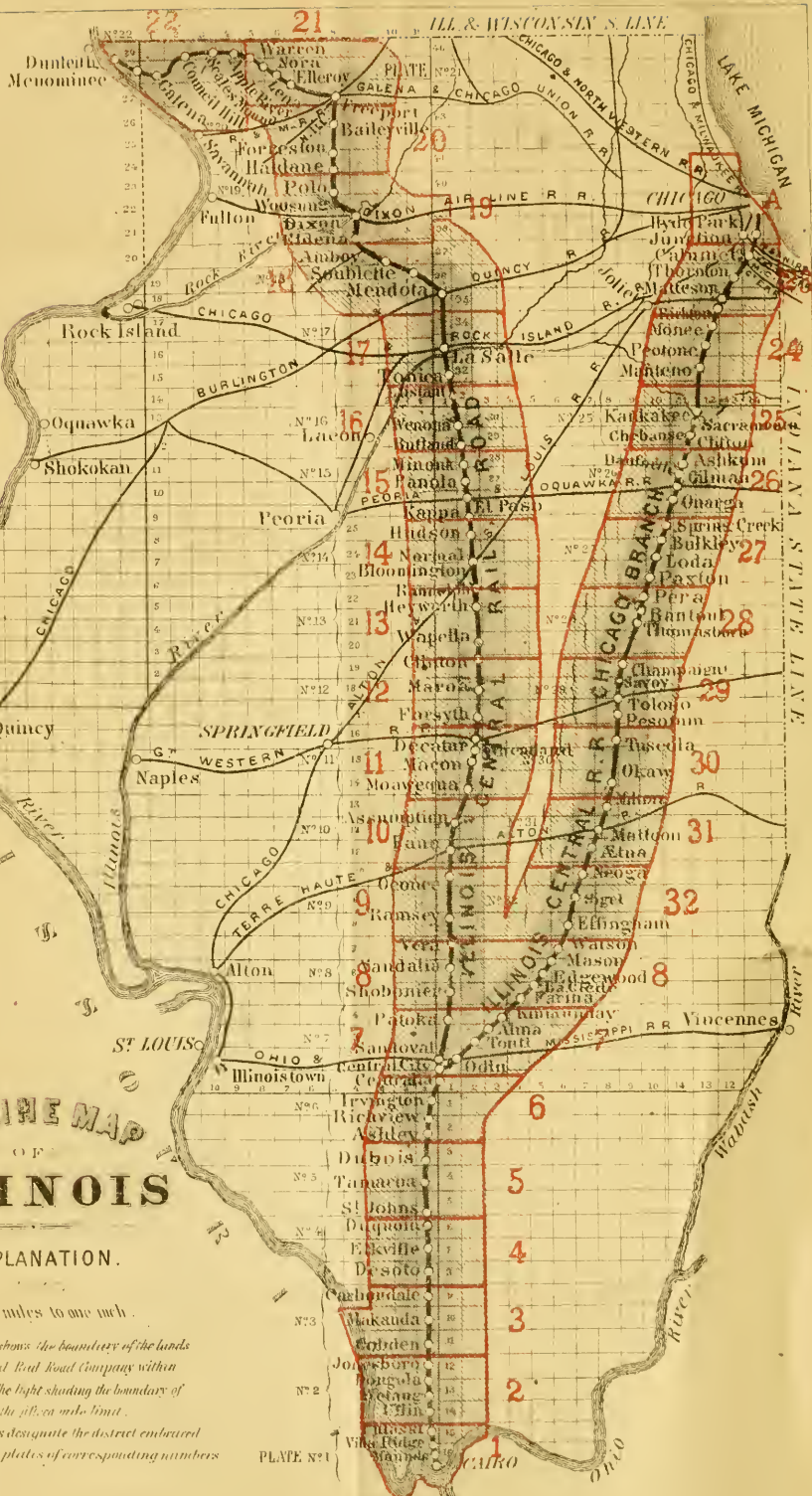
## EXPLANATION.

Scale, 5 miles to one inch.

The heavy shading shows the boundary of the lands of the Illinois Central Road Company within the six-mile limit. The light shading the boundary of their lands within the eight-mile limit.

The red figures designate the district embraced in each Map plates of corresponding numbers

PLATE No. 1



GUIDE  
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LANDS.

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# CONTENTS.

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	Page.
General Remarks.....	3
Climate .....	3
Soil, Surface, &c.....	4
Education .....	5
Principal Productions .....	6
The Railroad Lands .....	11
Inducements to Settlers.....	13
Prices, and Terms of Payment .....	14
List of Stations.....	15
Description of Land from Cairo to Villa Ridge .....	16, 17
"        "        Ullin to Jonesboro' .....	18, 19
"        "        Cobden to Carbondale.....	19, 20
"        "        De Soto to St. Johns .....	20, 21
"        "        Tamaroa to Coloma .....	21, 22
"        "        Ashley to Centralia .....	22, 24
"        "        Odin to Patoka.....	24, 26
"        "        Farina to Vera.....	26, 28
"        "        Ramsey to Oconee.....	29
"        "        Pana to Assumption.....	29, 30
"        "        Moawequa to Decatur.....	30, 32
"        "        Forsyth to Maroa.....	32
"        "        Clinton to Randolph.....	33, 34
"        "        Bloomington to Hudson.....	34, 35
"        "        Kappa to Mionk.....	36
"        "        Rutland to Lostant.....	37
"        "        Tonica to La Salle.....	38
"        "        Mendota to Amboy.....	39, 40
"        "        Eldena to Polo .....	40, 41
"        "        Haldane to Baileyville.....	42
"        "        Freeport to Warren.....	43, 44
"        "        Apple River to Dunleith.....	44, 46
"        "        Chicago and Hyde Park.....	46, 47
"        "        Calumet to Richton .....	47, 48
"        "        Monee to Manteno.....	48, 49
"        "        Kankakee to Chebanse .....	49, 50
"        "        Clifton to Onarga.....	51, 52
"        "        Bulkley to Paxton .....	53, 54
"        "        Pera to Thomasboro' .....	54, 55
"        "        Champaign to Pesotum .....	56, 57
"        "        Tuscola to Okaw .....	57, 58
"        "        Milton to Etna.....	58, 59
"        "        Neoga to Ellingham.....	60, 61



THE rapid growth of Illinois, in population and in wealth, is the marvel of modern civilization. In 1830, this State contained only 157,455 inhabitants. In 1860, it had increased to 1,711,753; and at the present time the population is set down at 2,500,000. The real and personal property of its citizens, in 1850 valued at \$150,000,000, is now estimated at \$1,200,000,000. It contains more good farming-land than any other State. Its area is 56,000 square miles, or 35,840,000 acres, ninety per cent of which, it is estimated, is suited for the plow, and with scarcely a tract of any considerable extent that is unfit for cultivation. The productive resources of the State may safely be said to be twice as great as the same body of lands anywhere east of the Alleghany range.

The whole circuit of Illinois is 1,176 miles; and the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash Rivers form more than three-fourths its entire boundary. The numerous tributaries of these rivers penetrate every part of the interior, irrigating the soil, draining the low lands, and furnishing water-power for manufactories. The Illinois River runs for over two hundred miles through the State, affording, in connection with the Illinois and Michigan Canal, a water-way between the Mississippi and the lakes. Since 1850, thirty-two hundred miles of railroad have been constructed, at a total cost of \$150,000,000. And thus, by railroads and rivers, there are easy means of communication and transportation both to the Gulf and the Atlantic seaboard. All the conditions favorable to prosperity are found here; and nowhere can the farmer, the mechanic, the manufacturer, and the laboring-man find surer rewards of industry.

#### CLIMATE.

Illinois lies between parallels of latitude  $37^{\circ}$  and  $42^{\circ} 30'$ . The climate is salubrious, and the mortality is less than in almost any other part of the country. The immigrant seeking a location regards the healthfulness of the district as a matter

of primary consideration; and it is not without gratification that we arrive at the conclusion that Illinois, so far as its sanitary condition is concerned, ranks with the most favored States of the Union. The vital statistics collected in 1860 show that in this State the deaths per cent to the population were in that year only 1.14, while the average of the whole country was 1.27. The ratio of deaths to the living population in Massachusetts was 1.76; Tennessee, 1.39; Arkansas, 2.06; Kentucky, 1.45; Mississippi, 1.57; Missouri, 1.52; Connecticut, 1.35; Kansas, 1.37; Louisiana, 1.76; Maine, 1.23; New York, 1.22. For the purpose of this comparison we have selected States in every section of the Union. The figures are accessible to all who will take the trouble to examine the official reports, and are a sufficient reply to much misrepresentation. Extending 380 miles from north to south, Illinois has all the varieties of climate to be found between Boston, in Massachusetts, and Norfolk, in Virginia,—in the southern part the mild temperature of Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and in the northern section a climate more nearly resembling that of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

### *SOIL, SURFACE, &c.*

The soil in the different parts of the State presents very marked characteristics. From the latitude of Chicago as far south as the Terre Haute and Alton Railroad, the country for the most part is open prairie, with here and there groves of timber, and timbered on the banks of the various streams. The soil in this region consists of a rich black loam, and is remarkably adapted to the production of corn, sorghum, and tame grasses. For stock-raising, no better land can be found. South of this line, the soil is lighter and of a grayish tinge: the country is also more broken, and the timber more plentiful. The small prairies in this region produce the best of winter-wheat, tobacco, flax, and hemp. From De Soto to Cairo, in the south, the land is heavily timbered. In this district, fruit, tobacco, cotton, and the different productions of the border States, are largely cultivated, and are highly remunerative.

Mr. JAMES CAIRD, M.P., who is regarded as the highest agricultural authority in England, passed over the Illinois Central lands a few years ago, and bears testimony to the inexhaustible fertility of the soil. He procured samples of the soil from different localities, and submitted them to chemical analysis. In his work on "Prairie Farming in America," Mr. Caird says, "Its chemical composition has been ascertained for me by Prof. Voelcker, consulting chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society of England, to whom I sent four samples of prairie soil for analysis, brought by me from different and distant points of the lands belonging to the Illinois Central Railway Company. They bear out completely the high character for fertility which practice and experience had already proved these soils to possess. The most noticeable feature in the analysis, as it appears to me, is the very large quantity of nitrogen which each of these soils contains, — nearly twice as much as the most fertile soils of Britain. In each case, taking the soil at an average depth of ten inches, an acre of these prairies will contain upwards of three tons of nitrogen; and, as a heavy crop of wheat with its straw contains about fifty-two pounds of nitrogen, there is thus a natural store of ammonia in this soil sufficient for more

than a hundred wheat-crops. In Dr. Voelcker's words, 'It is the large amount of nitrogen, and the beautiful state of division, that impart a peculiar character to these soils, and distinguish them so favorably. They are soils upon which flax, I imagine, could be grown in perfection, supposing the climate to be otherwise favorable. *I have never before analyzed soils which contained so much nitrogen; nor do I find any record of soils richer in nitrogen than these.*'"

The surface of the country shows a difference of elevation sufficient for all the purposes of drainage. The water-sheds are, first, the "Grand Chain," near Jonesborough; second, Central Illinois; and third, from Monee, north-westerly to Scales Mound. Chicago is 582 feet above tide-water. The Ohio River, at low water, is 300 feet below this; namely, 282 feet above tide-water. A large part of Central Illinois is higher than Chicago. Champaign is 739 feet above tide-water; Monee, thirty-four miles south of Chicago, and twenty miles south of the lake, is 794 feet above tide-water; Effingham, 587 feet, being nearly on the same level with Chicago; Centralia, 492 feet; railroad track at Big Muddy River, 379 feet, being 47 feet above the stream; Jonesborough, 629 feet. The railroad passes through the "Grand Chain," along the depression made by the "Drury;" and the hills on either side traverse several hundred feet above the road-bed.

Pana is 674 feet above tide-water; Decatur, 564 feet; Clinton, 625 feet; Bloomington, 721 feet; road-bed at the Illinois River, at LaSalle, 508 feet, being 74 feet below Chicago; Mendota, 747 feet; summit between Illinois and Rock River, 918 feet; Wisconsin State line, 982 feet; Scales Mound, 940 feet.

## EDUCATION.

In the important matter of the education of youth, Illinois has taken a leading position. The General Government endowed the State with one thirty-sixth part of the public land within its borders for the support of learning; and this has produced a large fund, the interest of which, with a tax of one-fifth of one per cent upon all the property in the State, is applied to the maintenance of free schools. At the date of the last published report, there were 9,945 public schools; which had been maintained at an expense (for the year ending Sept. 30, 1866) of \$4,359,238, and were attended by 614,659 pupils, being a fourth part of the whole number of the inhabitants of the State. The State Normal University, at Bloomington, is more than fulfilling the expectations of its founders and friends. It was established in 1857, for the education of teachers of the common schools, and at the present time has upwards of eight hundred students, every county in the State being represented. The Industrial College, recently located at Champaign, promises, under good management, to be one of the most useful institutions of the State. Endowed for the benefit of the industrial classes, while the main object is the teaching of such branches as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, yet none of the classical or scientific studies will be excluded, and thus a liberal as well as a practical education is insured to the students. A large number of colleges and academies, some of them set up by different religious denominations, but the majority being non-sectarian, have been established in Illinois, and every considerable town has one or more of these institutions of learning.

## P R I N C I P A L   P R O D U C T I O N S .

Illinois stands pre-eminently first in the list of grain-producing States. In no part of the country does agricultural machinery—the planter, the harvester, and the thresher—come into such general use as in this State; and it is to these labor-saving appliances that the rapid development of the resources of the prairies is mainly due. The crop of last year—Indian corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley—is estimated at 250 millions of bushels.

**Indian Corn.**—This is perhaps the most important crop of the State. It is applied to so great a variety of purposes, and is such an indispensable article for foreign consumption, that, however abundantly it may be produced, the constantly increasing demand will press heavily upon the supply. It is less liable to failure than any other crop, and in some parts of the State has been produced without intermission, and without manure, for more than half a century.

**Wheat.**—For the culture of wheat, the lands of the Illinois Central Railroad are in all respects equal to any in the State. One great advantage is their nearness to the railroad, by which the purchaser has the means of putting his crop in the market at the earliest or most favorable time, and at a cheap rate of transportation. During the last year, the stations on this road sent forward to market 3,958,280 bushels of wheat, besides 363,926 barrels of flour. In Southern Illinois, winter-wheat is almost certain to yield a good return to the grower. The reaping, threshing, and cleaning machines, now so generally in use, have made wheat-growing a source of great profit to the farmer.

For the conveyance of the surplus products of the West, the Mississippi River furnishes a cheap and easy means. Grain is now carried from Cairo to the New Orleans elevators in barges constructed specially for the purpose, and from New Orleans it is shipped to Liverpool, New York, and Boston, at rates of transportation cheaper even than *viâ* the lakes and canal, and with some saving in matter of time.

**Raising Stock.**—Illinois is also the great cattle State of the Union. Its fertile prairies are well adapted by nature to the raising of cattle, sheep, horses, and mules; and in the important interest of pork-packing it is far in advance of every other State.

One feature which makes portions of Illinois so desirable for stock-raising is the pure water from Artesian wells, which is obtained at various depths, from 25 to 150 feet. The Artesian water is impregnated with iron, which, although it is scarcely perceptible to the palate, enters largely into the blood, and the person or animal using it becomes healthy and robust. The temperature is from forty-eight to fifty-six degrees at all seasons, and wells generally flow about a hundred gallons per hour. In dairy-business, and in the large cheese-factories now being established, these wells, by affording a constant supply of water of an even temperature, aid materially in the success of this branch of agriculture.

Sheep thrive well, requiring fodder but a short time in the year; and the beef and mutton of the prairies of Illinois are well known to be the best in America. The statistics of the live-stock trade show that considerably more than one-half the cattle taken to the New York market are furnished by Illinois. The total

receipts of beeves last year amounted to 293,832 head, of which this State contributed 177,028; and in the other large eastern cities the receipts of Illinois cattle are in about the same proportion. The bringing of stock from Texas and New Mexico to Illinois is already an important business, and is increasing with astonishing rapidity. The cattle are fattened upon our prairies, and then marketed in Chicago and New York. In the southern part of the State, where the winters are mild, and pasturage abundant nearly all the year round, stock-raising is one of the most profitable branches of agricultural industry.

**Cotton, Tobacco, Flax.** — The cultivation of tobacco and cotton in Southern Illinois was largely stimulated by the high prices which prevailed during the Rebellion. The production of cotton in the southern part of the State, last year, was 1,300,000 pounds for shipment, a considerable portion of the crop being retained for home consumption. The tobacco crop of Southern Illinois brings a large sum to the farmers of that section. Flax is grown in almost every part of the State, and in many places for the seed alone; but, with the improved machinery and modes of manufacture which repeated experiment and perseverance are producing, the fibre as well as the seed is being turned to profitable account, greatly increasing the value of this crop. Hemp can also be profitably produced.

**Beet Sugar.** — The making of sugar from the beet has for several years occupied the attention of enterprising and public-spirited men. Experiments upon a large scale, made last year and the year before, have proved so successful as to warrant the belief that beet-sugar will presently become one of the leading productions of the State. The following extract from a letter from the Hon. Horace Capron, the United-States Commissioner of Agriculture, is worthy of especial consideration. The letter is dated Washington, Feb. 8, 1868:—

“A promising beginning in beet-sugar making has been commenced in Chatsworth, Ill., and fine samples of its sugar may be seen in the museum of this department. A history of this enterprise will hereafter be given. It has, of course, met with difficulties, surrounded by new circumstances, with high rates of labor and interest on money, which will all, I have no doubt, be eventually overcome. Many individuals and companies stand ready to engage in the business when its success upon our soil is fully demonstrated. Then, in the West, as in Europe, flourishing towns and villages will spring up upon prairies that are now without population or improvement; and an impetus will be given to all other business by the successful manufacture of a raw product, taken from adjacent fields, involving the supply of an imperative want of every class of our people.

“The beet-cake for feeding-purposes, the molasses, alcohol, and other products obtained, greatly increase the aggregate which makes the total value of this branch of industry. Beet-sugar districts become so enriched, that far greater amounts of the cereals and other products of agriculture are obtained than before beet factories were known.

“\$133,943,159, gold value, have been paid for foreign sugar in five years (from 1862 to 1866), and \$30,115,073 for the molasses, — an average of about \$33,000,000 per year, and more than \$50,000,000 in currency; the most of which, if not all, should be retained at home. In view of the great success of the business in Europe, the American people owe to the world's estimate of American enterprise a determined

and persistent effort for its establishment here. I see no reason to despair of its complete accomplishment. I shall therefore deem it a duty to encourage and forward this result so far as official means and opportunities may permit."

**Wool.**—The production of wool is rapidly increasing in this State. Some statistics of the clip, in the districts adjoining the Illinois Central Railway, are furnished in the following pages, and they justify the inference that in a very few years the home product will be ample for all the demands of manufacture.

**Mining.**—The mineral wealth of Illinois is immense, and is constantly developing to meet the exigencies of manufacture and the requirements of trade. Coal is found in almost unlimited quantities in various parts of the State, there being at this time no less than three hundred and eighty mines in operation. While many portions of the State are scantily supplied with timber, coal is purchased at moderate rates at nearly all the railway stations, and its demand for fuel by the farmers is steadily increasing. It is found in many localities where as yet it is not extensively mined. Southern Illinois is exceedingly rich in mines of coal. All the lands north of the Big Muddy River, and south of Centralia, are underlaid by coal; and the greater portion of them by the Duquoin coal-seam, which is one of the most valuable in the State, both on account of its thickness, and the excellent quality of the coal which it affords. This coal may be reached by shafts varying in depth from fifty to three hundred feet, and the seam varies in thickness from four to six feet.

The richest lead-producing district in the world—the Galena—lies mainly in this State. Though wrought for many years, it is believed that only a small part of the deposit has yet been removed. More than thirteen million pounds of lead were forwarded from the under-mentioned stations on the Illinois Central Railroad in 1867:—

Dunleith . . . . .	805,800 lbs.
Galena . . . . .	5,350,900 "
Council Hill . . . . .	2,420,900 "
Scales Mound . . . . .	864,000 "
Apple River . . . . .	721,900 "
Warren . . . . .	3,101,390 "
<hr/>	
Total . . . . .	13,264,890 "

Lime-stone, but little inferior to the best marble, is found in various localities, and is used in the construction of the fine buildings of Chicago and other large cities. Zinc-ore, to the amount of a thousand tons a year, is taken from the ground; while copper and iron are among the mineral treasures as yet barely touched.

**Lumber, Hedges, and Shade-Trees.**—The forests of Southern Illinois abound in oak, cypress, black-walnut, and poplar; and in many localities the lumbering business is large and profitable. Many saw-mills are in operation near the railroad stations, furnishing building materials at very low rates. For several years

Chicago has ranked as the cheapest, as well as one of the largest, lumber markets of the country. Although Illinois is destitute of pine, Chicago is situated within easy water-communication with the great pine districts of Wisconsin and Lake Superior; and the settler purchasing land in those districts where timber is scarce can buy his lumber for building and fencing at Chicago as cheap or cheaper than in any of the other great lumber markets of the country; and at all of the principal stations on the railroad it can be purchased in smaller quantities at reasonable rates.

The Osage orange succeeds admirably for hedges, and is rapidly displacing the wooden fence, making a more enduring and secure enclosure. Besides its formidable defence in turning cattle, it presents a beautiful appearance in summer, and forms a good wind-break in winter. The seed is kept for sale at all the principal markets.

Almost all the trees found in this State grow luxuriantly when set out in the open prairie country. Too much cannot be said in favor of the planting of trees, as well to add to the attractiveness of home as for the wants of the farm, for wind-breaks to protect crops and orchards, for hedges, &c. The first cost is small, while the requisite care is so little, and the benefit so great, that every farmer ought to give attention to the matter.

**Cheese.** — A large number of cheese-factories were put in operation last year, and preparations are making to establish more. The best American cheese finds a ready market abroad, and forms no inconsiderable item of our exports. The principle of associated dairies is gaining favor all over the country, particularly in the West; and, wherever cheese-factories have been set up, they have in all cases proved successful.

**Fruit.** — Many varieties of fruit are produced throughout the State; but it is to Southern Illinois that the term "fruit-country" is most appropriately applied. The State Geologist, in his last published report, thus refers to the section south of Centralia: "IT IS THE MOST VALUABLE FOR FRUIT OF ANY REGION IN THE STATE. The climate is sufficiently mild to allow the peach-orchards of this vicinity to thrive luxuriantly; and large crops of the same, as well as apples, pears, and all the smaller fruits, are annually obtained in great abundance. The broken lands are well adapted to the growth of the fine varieties of grapes. Lying contiguous to the line of the Illinois Central Railroad, the lands in the counties of Jackson, Perry, Washington, and Jefferson, have every advantage of the Northern market for their products; and the inhabitant is able to send the annual products of the soil to markets in Chicago and the North-west several weeks earlier than they can be furnished from the northern part of the State, thereby securing the best prices for their productions."

The peaches of "Egypt" are esteemed equal to any in the United States, as well in flavor as in size, and are produced in the greatest abundance. In a favorable season, the transportation of this fruit forms no insignificant item in the business of the road. Thus, during the last summer, the earnings of the railway were increased to the extent of upwards of \$100,000 by the freight upon peaches, carried from Southern Illinois to Chicago and other railway stations.

In preparing a piece of ground for peach-growing, there is no great expense

beyond the purchase money of the land, which costs from \$10 to \$12 per acre. The timber pays for the expense of clearing the land; and, until the trees begin to bear, sufficient crops can be raised from the ground to pay running expenses.

Strawberries are cultivated in every part of Illinois; but it is from the southern part of the State that the markets are chiefly supplied. In the fruit business of this region the strawberry ranks next to the peach; and it is estimated that there are more than fifteen hundred acres planted with this berry in the towns bordering upon the railroad, south of Centralia.

The cultivation of the grape has made so much progress, that very soon the fruit of this vine will be classed among the considerable exports of Southern Illinois. In some places, choice varieties will be found in almost every garden.

Some prominence is given to the cultivation of raspberries, and already about two hundred acres in the fruit region have been planted to this vine. The berry is of a large size, and is of the finest flavor.

In some sections, blackberries are found growing wild and in the greatest abundance. They are gathered, and sent to market, or preserved in various ways. This fruit is cultivated with good profit, the better qualities always bringing a large price.

Many thousands of pear-trees have been planted in the last few years. Some of them are just now coming into bearing, and give every promise of yielding as abundantly as the peach planted in the same vicinity.

The apple has already become an important production of Illinois. In Cobden, and other parts of the fruit region, some very large orchards have been set out. Great attention is now paid to budding and grafting and pruning; the choicest varieties are selected for cultivation; and the time is not far distant when the State will be an exporter, instead of an importer, of this fruit.

The quince has not been extensively cultivated; but, wherever met with, it seems to flourish well.

When the preserving of perishable fruits, by canning, has been more generally adopted, a still greater impetus and value will be given to the fruit business of this State.

Tomatoes, sweet-potatoes, etc., etc., are among the products of Southern Illinois; and, while they grow in other sections of the State, they flourish better in the South than in the North. The first vegetables of the season came from the southern part of the State, and the grower is thus favored that his early products necessarily command the highest prices in the great markets of Chicago, St. Louis, and the Upper Mississippi towns.

In the season of shipment, the Railway Company runs a special train from Jonesboro' to Chicago for the accommodation of the fruit trade. During the last summer this train made seventy-three trips. — twenty-one in the berry season, and fifty-two in the peach season. The business of this train is summed up as follows; but the figures are far under the total fruit shipments of the places named, large quantities having been sent to market by express and by ordinary freight trains. As an instance, Centralia, which furnished three hundred and twelve tons of fruit to the special train, sent forward six hundred tons by express. At the height of the season, for several days in succession, the train brought into Chicago nineteen car-loads of fruit per day. There were also large shipments along the Main Line,

where the fruit dealers, not having access to the special train, were confined to the accommodation afforded by the express.

*Shipments by the Fruit Train, 1867.*

STATIONS.	TOTAL SHIPMENTS.				
	Boxes of Berries.	Boxes of Peaches.	Boxes of other Fruit.	Boxes of Vegetables.	Total Weight, lbs.
Onarga . . . . .	286	...	...	...	28,480
Paxton . . . . .	5	...	...	...	200
Champaign . . . . .	634	...	...	...	21,700
Tolono . . . . .	10	...	...	...	500
Mason . . . . .	134	3,134	27	...	69,640
Edgewood . . . . .	161	442	93	...	13,920
Farmia . . . . .	192	3,147	94	...	68,660
Kinmundy . . . . .	185	30,952	119	...	625,320
Alma . . . . .	233	20,934	...	...	426,140
Tonti . . . . .	796	25,594	...	511	336,020
Odin . . . . .	222	5,776	12	44	121,100
Centralia . . . . .	1,816	25,341	643	...	625,580
Irrington . . . . .	39	2,622	...	17	53,680
Richview . . . . .	111	17,765	421	1,114	392,250
Ashley . . . . .	...	340	60	21	8,440
Dubois . . . . .	...	184	...	...	3,680
De Soto . . . . .	...	140	...	...	2,800
St. John's . . . . .	...	45,938	727	226	938,050
Du Quoin . . . . .	...	229	...	...	4,440
Tamara . . . . .	...	1,447	118	...	31,100
Carbondale . . . . .	229	10,971	537	724	257,420
Makanda . . . . .	1,357	50,504	850	575	1,089,580
Cobden . . . . .	6,670	126,412	2,623	1,919	2,879,570
Jonesboro' . . . . .	862	16,967	1,038	1,624	429,610
Total . . . . .	13,942	388,820	7,363	6,915	8,638,200

The principal part of these shipments were sent to Chicago,—less than one-fourth being destined for other stations. The aggregate of the shipments to Chicago were as follows: 289,191 boxes peaches, 12,521 boxes strawberries, 6,560 boxes other descriptions of fruit, and 5,994 boxes of vegetables,—the total weight being 6,548,310 lbs.

**THE EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.**

To whatever extent the resources of this State are developed, there can never be any very great accumulation of breadstuffs. It is impossible for Europe to yield enough wheat for its three hundred millions of people; and their soundest writers upon the subject assert, that, even with the most favorable harvests, three-fourths of the population are inadequately fed. With cheap means of transportation to the shores of the Old World, it is believed that five hundred million bushels of breadstuffs would be annually purchased from the United States. But it is not alone to wheat and corn that the export trade is confined. In Illinois, almost every thing that contributes to food for man is produced in excess of the wants of the population, and finds a profitable market in the Eastern States and in Europe.

**THE RAILROAD LANDS.**

In 1850, the General Government ceded a portion of the public lands lying within the State of Illinois, and extending fifteen miles on each side of the track, to aid in the construction of a railroad from Cairo, in the extreme southern part of the State, to Dunleith, in the north-west, with a branch to Chicago, on the shore of Lake Michigan. The State transferred these lands to the Central Railroad Company on conditions which have been fully complied with. The Company

expended \$30,000,000 in the construction of a railroad through the State, as above described, and in erecting station-houses, warehouses, and other permanent improvements. The grant comprised 2,595,000 acres in alternate sections. This land had been for many years offered to purchasers at \$1.25 per acre, and, under the graduation laws, would soon have come into the market at a rate even lower than this. Immediately upon the Company undertaking to build the railroad, the Government advanced the price of the land it had reserved (the alternate sections) to \$2.50 an acre; and at this rate it met with a speedy sale. Thus the Government was an absolute gainer by the transaction, even in a money point of view. With the projection of the railroad, new life and energy were given to the region through which it was to pass. The land was offered to settlers at a low price and upon easy terms; immigration was immediately attracted; the country, hitherto a wilderness, was put under cultivation; and there has followed an increase in population and material prosperity altogether unparalleled. The statistics of freight forwarded upon the Illinois Central Railroad exhibit the following results for the year 1867: 7,820,560 bushels corn, 3,958,280 bushels wheat, 4,863,110 bushels oats, 640,650 bushels barley, 237,390 bushels rye, 363,926 bbls. flour, 165,958 bushels potatoes, 41,882 bbls. pork, 10,089 bbls. lard, 10,104 tons hay, 1,236,000 lbs. wool, 18,427,300 lbs. dressed pork, 150,000 tons coal, 5,598,200 lbs. hides, 61,846 beef-cattle, 43,750 sheep, 322,860 hogs, 6,554 horses and mules, 13,264,890 lbs. lead. These are a portion only of the important productions of the section of Illinois contributing to the railroad. Seven per cent of the gross earnings of the road are paid into the State Treasury—an amount nearly sufficient to defray the ordinary expenses of the State Government. The following table shows the population, in 1850, 1860, and 1865, of the counties touched by the Illinois Central Railroad. As the increased per cent in these counties is considerably greater than the increase of the whole State, the conclusion is irresistible that the Illinois Central Railroad has been one of the leading forces operating in the settling up of the country.

***Population of 49 Counties in Illinois, on the Line of the Illinois Central Railroad.***

COUNTIES.	1850.	1860.	1865.	COUNTIES.	1850.	1860.	1865.
Cook . . . . .	43,385	144,954	317,399	Montgomery . . . . .	6,277	13,979	19,812
Will . . . . .	16,703	29,321	36,986	Piatt . . . . .	1,696	6,127	8,138
Kankakee . . . . .		15,412	18,696	Shelby . . . . .	7,807	14,613	19,278
Iroquois . . . . .	4,149	12,325	18,076	Christian . . . . .	3,203	10,192	17,339
Ford . . . . .		1,979	3,643	Macon . . . . .	3,988	13,738	21,691
Champaign . . . . .	2,649	14,629	21,124	DeWitt . . . . .	5,002	10,820	12,815
Douglas . . . . .		7,140	11,652	McLean . . . . .	10,163	28,772	39,772
Moultrie . . . . .	3,231	6,385	8,324	Woodford . . . . .	4,415	13,282	18,022
Coles . . . . .	9,335	14,203	22,951	Livingston . . . . .	1,652	11,637	17,500
Cumberland . . . . .	3,718	8,311	10,657	Marshall . . . . .	5,180	13,437	16,652
Effingham . . . . .	3,799	7,816	12,611	Putnam . . . . .	3,924	5,557	6,311
Clay . . . . .	4,289	9,336	13,332	La Salle . . . . .	17,815	48,332	56,645
Marion . . . . .	6,720	12,739	18,960	Bureau . . . . .	8,841	26,426	31,508
Jefferson . . . . .	8,109	12,965	15,261	De Kalb . . . . .	7,540	19,095	21,294
Franklin . . . . .	5,681	9,393	11,476	Whitesides . . . . .	5,361	18,737	24,125
Williamson . . . . .	7,216	12,265	14,163	Lee . . . . .	5,292	17,651	22,630
Johnson . . . . .	4,114	9,342	11,467	Carroll . . . . .	4,586	11,733	14,523
Pulaski . . . . .	2,265	3,943	7,463	Winnebago . . . . .	11,773	24,431	35,541
Alexander . . . . .	2,484	4,767	12,206	Ogle . . . . .	10,020	22,888	25,234
Union . . . . .	7,615	11,181	15,880	Stephenson . . . . .	11,666	25,112	29,231
Jackson . . . . .	5,862	9,589	14,679	Jo Daviess . . . . .	18,604	27,325	26,437
Perry . . . . .	5,578	9,552	11,477	Sangamon . . . . .	19,228	32,274	48,273
Washington . . . . .	6,933	13,731	16,103	Logan . . . . .	5,128	14,372	18,501
Clinton . . . . .	5,139	10,941	13,765				
Bond . . . . .	6,114	9,815	11,471	Totals . . . . .	351,887	843,914	1,127,087
Fayette . . . . .	8,075	11,189	15,967				

### **THE TITLE.**

It is an important consideration with the purchaser of land, that he secure a good title; and, so far as this requisite is concerned, the Illinois Central Railroad Company can convey to the buyer of its lands a title complete and perfect in every respect. The lands were first ceded by the United States to the State of Illinois, and then by the State of Illinois to this Company. So that, when the purchaser has paid the price agreed upon, he receives a deed from the trustees appointed by the State, and in whom the title is now vested, which is an ABSOLUTE TITLE IN FEE SIMPLE, being in fact the first conveyance under the authority of the General Government.

### **INDUCEMENTS TO SETTLERS.**

The attention of persons whose limited means forbid the purchase of a homestead in the older States is particularly invited to these lands. Within twelve years the Illinois Central Railroad Company has sold 1,800,000 acres of land to actual settlers. The 800,000 acres yet unsold are, in all respects, equal to those already disposed of. A considerable portion of these lands are contiguous to the Chicago Branch of the Illinois Central Railroad, south from Chicago from 60 to 150 miles, in the centre of the corn-belt and most favored climate, where the range for grazing is extensive, and healthful water from Artesian wells is readily obtained at a small expense, and having direct railroad communication with the great markets of Chicago and Cairo. The farms are sold in tracts of forty or eighty acres, suited to the settler with limited capital, or in larger tracts, as may be required by the capitalist and stock-raiser. The soil is of unsurpassed fertility; the climate is healthy; taxes are comparatively low; churches and schools are abundant throughout the length and breadth of the State; and communication with all the great markets is made easy by railroads, canals, and rivers.

It should be remembered that these lands are offered at about the gold standard price which prevailed in 1861; while, in the mean time, the price of grain, and indeed of all agricultural products, has largely increased.

The details furnished in the following pages will enable any one intending to settle in Illinois to form a tolerably correct idea of the district which will best meet his views.

Those coming from the Eastern States, or from any of the old settled districts, must bear in mind that this is, in many respects, a new country; but any man with good health, industry, and a determination to succeed,—setting out with enough means to purchase a team, plows, the materials for a small house, and some fencing,—can hardly fail in a few years to secure a comfortable home, and to attain that independent position which every husbandman desires. With the present prices (April, 1868) of all articles needed, \$800 is perhaps the smallest amount we would advise any one to start upon for the purchase of eighty acres, or even a smaller tract of land. Many persons succeed with smaller means to begin with. Some of the German, Norwegian, and Swedish emigrants who have purchased land of the Company, and who are a very thrifty, industrious, and frugal class, have furnished examples of prosperity from very small beginnings. Labor is in great demand at fair prices, and no one who is able to work need remain idle in any of the farming districts of the State. It is advisable for those removing from

the East to bring with them the less bulky articles of household goods. All kinds of agricultural implements, peculiarly adapted to the character of the soil, are extensively manufactured in the State, and can be purchased at Chicago, and at all the important railway stations, at as low prices as in any part of the Union. A large number of the farmers from Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, and Wisconsin have brought with them their cattle, sheep, horses, agricultural implements, &c.; in many cases, the stock being driven across the country to the new location.

At any of the stations on the railroad, information can be obtained as to the exact location of the Company's lands, and the business connected with the purchase can be transacted through the station agent; but it is recommended to all whose route lies through Chicago to call at the principal office of the Land Department, opposite the Great Central Depot, where full particulars will be furnished regarding the different localities, and every assistance given to enable purchasers to select their land with the least expense and trouble.

### PRICES, AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The lands of the Company are now offered at from \$7 to \$12 per acre, with some few tracts at higher figures, rated according to quality and nearness to stations. They are sold upon short credit, or for cash,—a deduction of ten per cent from the price per acre being made to those who purchase for cash.

EXAMPLE. — Forty acres, at \$8 per acre, on short credit; the principal, one-quarter cash down—balance, one, two, and three years, at six per cent interest, in advance, each year:

	Interest.	Principal.		Interest.	Principal.
Cash payment. . . . .	\$14 40 . . . .	\$80 00	Payment in two years . .	\$4 80 . . . .	\$80 00
Payment in one year . . . . .	9 60 . . . .	80 00	Payment in three years. . . . .	80 00	80 00
			Total payments . . . . .		348 80

The same land may be purchased for \$288 in cash.

Any information not contained in this pamphlet will be furnished upon application in person, or by letter in English, French, or German, addressed to

LAND COMMISSIONER,

*Illinois Central Railroad Co.,*

CHICAGO, ILL.

*List of Stations on Illinois Central Railroad.*

Miles bet. Stations	MAIN LINE. NAMES OF STATIONS.	Distance from Dunleith.	Miles bet. Stations	CHICAGO BRANCH. NAMES OF STATIONS.	Distance from Chicago.
Miles. Haths.		Miles. Haths.	Miles. Haths.		Miles. Haths.
	Dunleith . . . . .			Chicago . . . . .	
8.25	Menominee . . . . .	8.25	7.00	Hyde Park . . . . .	7.00
8.40	Galena . . . . .	16.65		M. S. Crossing . . . . .	
7.27	Council Hill . . . . .	23.92	7.00	Calumet . . . . .	14.00
5.47	Scales Mound . . . . .	29.39	9.50	Thornton . . . . .	23.50
8.32	Apple River . . . . .	37.61	4.00	Matteson . . . . .	27.50
5.90	Warren . . . . .	43.51	1.00	Richton . . . . .	28.50
3.51	Nora . . . . .	47.02	5.50	Monroe . . . . .	34.00
4.05	West Point . . . . .	51.07	6.00	Peotone . . . . .	40.00
4.04	Lena . . . . .	55.11	6.50	Manteno . . . . .	46.50
4.59	Eleroy . . . . .	59.70	9.50	Kankakee . . . . .	56.00
7.97	Freeport . . . . .	67.67	1.00	Sacramento . . . . .	57.00
7.32	Baileyville . . . . .	74.99	7.45	Chebanse . . . . .	64.45
5.20	Foreston . . . . .	80.19	4.36	Clifton . . . . .	68.81
4.57	Haldane . . . . .	84.76	4.36	Ashkum . . . . .	73.17
5.25	Polo . . . . .	90.01	4.25	Danforth . . . . .	77.42
6.07	Woosung . . . . .	96.08	3.77	Gilman . . . . .	81.25
5.99	North Dixon . . . . .	102.04	3.98	Onarga . . . . .	85.23
1.32	Dixon . . . . .	103.36	3.00	Spring Creek . . . . .	87.90
6.14	Eldena . . . . .	109.50	5.25	Bukley . . . . .	93.15
5.07	Amboy . . . . .	115.17	6.00	Loda . . . . .	98.87
7.34	Sublette . . . . .	122.51	4.13	Paxton . . . . .	103.00
8.08	Mendota . . . . .	131.19	5.56	Pera . . . . .	108.56
7.75	Homer . . . . .	138.94	5.56	Rantoul . . . . .	114.12
4.70	Coal Track . . . . .	143.70	5.15	Thomasboro' . . . . .	119.27
3.25	La Salle . . . . .	146.95	8.85	Champaign . . . . .	128.00
2.27	Oglesby . . . . .	149.22	4.50	Savoy . . . . .	132.50
6.82	Tonica . . . . .	156.04	4.80	Tolono . . . . .	137.30
5.62	Lostant . . . . .	161.96	4.77	Pesotum . . . . .	142.07
6.14	Wenona . . . . .	167.24	8.12	Tuscola . . . . .	150.19
4.90	Rutland . . . . .	172.14	7.90	Okaw . . . . .	158.09
5.63	Minonk . . . . .	177.77	5.91	Milton . . . . .	164.00
8.16	Panola . . . . .	185.93	8.75	Mattoon . . . . .	172.75
3.12	El Paso . . . . .	189.05	7.39	Etna . . . . .	179.00
4.37	Kappa . . . . .	193.42	4.45	Neoga . . . . .	184.59
4.71	Hudson . . . . .	198.13	6.84	Sigel . . . . .	191.43
7.12	Normal . . . . .	205.25	7.57	Effingham . . . . .	199.10
1.89	Bloomington . . . . .	207.14	6.82	Watson . . . . .	205.92
5.52	Randolph . . . . .	212.66	5.83	Mason . . . . .	211.75
5.84	Heyworth . . . . .	218.50	2.95	Edgewood . . . . .	214.70
6.50	Wapella . . . . .	225.00	4.00	Laclede . . . . .	218.70
4.42	Clinton . . . . .	229.42	4.60	Farina . . . . .	223.30
8.22	Maroa . . . . .	237.64	5.85	Kilmundy . . . . .	229.15
7.75	Forsyth . . . . .	245.39	5.00	Alma . . . . .	234.15
5.29	Decatur . . . . .	250.68	5.10	Tonti . . . . .	239.25
5.00	Wheatland . . . . .	255.00	5.21	Odin . . . . .	244.46
4.94	Macon . . . . .	260.62	5.76	M. L. Junction . . . . .	250.22
5.87	Moawequa . . . . .	266.49	.82	Central City . . . . .	252.04
7.42	Assumption . . . . .	273.91	1.51	Centralia . . . . .	252.55
9.12	Pana . . . . .	283.03	6.28	Irrington . . . . .	258.83
7.32	Oconee . . . . .	290.35	4.14	Richview . . . . .	262.97
10.03	Ramsey . . . . .	300.38	3.45	Ashley . . . . .	266.42
7.25	Vera . . . . .	307.63	7.45	Du Bois . . . . .	273.87
5.25	Vandalia . . . . .	312.88	5.95	Tamara . . . . .	279.82
4.44	Shobonier . . . . .	319.32	7.38	St. John's . . . . .	287.20
8.14	Patoka . . . . .	327.46	1.36	Du Quoin . . . . .	288.56
9.65	Sandoval . . . . .	337.11		Elkville . . . . .	
3.59	Junction . . . . .	340.70	13.41	De Soto . . . . .	301.97
			6.30	Carbondale . . . . .	308.27
			8.34	Makanda . . . . .	316.61
			6.67	Cobden . . . . .	323.28
			5.48	Jonesboro' . . . . .	328.76
			9.27	Dongola . . . . .	338.03
			2.92	Wetang . . . . .	340.95
			3.72	Ullin . . . . .	344.67
			4.59	Pulaski . . . . .	349.26
			3.93	Villa Ridge . . . . .	353.19
			3.34	Mound City Junc. . . . .	356.53
			8.50	Cairo . . . . .	365.03

The entire length of the road is 705.73 miles :  
the Main Line, from Cairo to Dunleith, 455.51  
miles; and the Branch, from Chicago to the  
junction with the Main Line, 250.22 miles.

# GUIDE TO AND DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD LANDS.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 1.)

**Cairo**, the southern terminus of the Illinois Central Railroad, at the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, is a point of the first commercial, geographical, and strategical importance. It is 365 miles south from Chicago, 522 south-west from Cincinnati, 175 south-east from St. Louis, and about 1,000, by the course of the river, north from New Orleans. From the period of the establishment of steam navigation on the Western rivers, this delta was marked as an eligible site for a city; but the local disadvantages were too great for private enterprise to overcome, and the early history of Cairo is the history of many signal and lamentable failures. Its prosperity dates from the opening of the Illinois Central Railroad. The construction of levees to protect the city from inundation, the building of warehouses, and indeed the creation of business—these undertakings of the Railroad Company are the auspicious circumstances which combined to make Cairo a centre of traffic. The first train of cars reached Cairo on the 7th of August, 1855, and since that time the progress of the city has been steady and onward. In 1850, it contained 242 inhabitants. It was incorporated in 1856, and now has a population of more than 12,000. In the last three years, thirteen miles of streets have been filled up to the established grade, and the work is still going on. Within the same time, three miles of brick sewers have been constructed. The levee around the city now encloses 1,300 acres. The rise of the rivers, from extreme low to extreme high water, is forty-nine feet. Every steamer plying between St. Louis, Cincinnati, Louisville, or Pittsburg, and the southern towns on the Mississippi River, must necessarily stop at Cairo, and land and receive passengers, freight, and supplies. During the last year, 4,858 steamboats touched here. Large and handsome buildings have been recently constructed by the General Government, and the County (Alexander) of which Cairo is the shire town. The U. S. Government is now erecting a building of cut stone, to cost \$200,000, for the use of the Custom House and the Post-Office. There are ten churches in the city; to wit, two Roman Catholic and two African, and one each Episcopal, Baptist, German-Lutheran, Methodist, Christian, and Presbyterian. The public schools are justly the pride of the city and the admiration of strangers. Two of these schoolhouses are of brick, and of handsome architectural appearance,—the Primary schoolhouse, costing \$17,000, and the High schoolhouse, \$30,000. The teachers are among the best to be obtained in the State. At the last enumeration, there were 636 pupils in attendance. There are also three private schools, having an average attendance of 400 pupils,—one, a boarding and day school, for girls only, under the charge of the Sisters of Loretta, and more familiarly known as

the Convent School, one German, and one Catholic school. The total number of business and trading houses is 256, which includes two banks and two insurance companies. In addition to the extensive depots of the Railroad Company, there are five large grain warehouses and one grain elevator. The "press" consists of the daily and weekly "Democrat" and the weekly "Times." There are two dry docks, and a number of manufacturing concerns, among which are two flouring-mills, two saw-mills, three machine-shops, two founderies, two planing and sash mills, two breweries, two barrel-factories, two tobacco-factories, and cotton gins and presses, &c., &c. Twelve doctors and fifteen lawyers represent the medical and legal professions.

**Mound Station**,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Cairo, is connected with Mound City, a busy place of 2,000 inhabitants, by a railway three miles in length. There are freight and passenger houses here, erected by the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and some business is done in the lumber-forwarding way.

**Villa Ridge.**—This station has three hotels, six stores, three brickyards, two blacksmith-shops, three saw-mills in the vicinity, one church, one schoolhouse, one broom-factory, one shingle and furniture factory, one drug-store, &c. The name was suggested by the character of the surrounding country, which consists of a ridge, or a series of ridges, extending from a point four or five miles west of the railroad eastward to the Ohio River at Caledonia, and thence up the river indefinitely. The soil is fertile; and this station, being in the neighborhood of hills, has attracted to itself much attention as a desirable place for the extensive cultivation of fruit, and quite a number of persons, representing almost every State in the Union, are largely engaged in that pursuit. This valley, between the Ohio and Mississippi, is unsurpassed for horticultural purposes. Coal abounds; and tobacco, cotton, and sorghum are very profitably and extensively cultivated. The country is rapidly growing in population, and many improvements are in progress. The station is twelve miles from Cairo, and seven from Mound City; and the picturesque ridge is the first high ground to be found north of those places. As a consequence, the hills in the vicinity of the station are regarded as very desirable country-residences for gentlemen doing business in Cairo and Mound City. The forests abound in black walnut, oak, poplar, cypress, &c.; and the station is an important shipping-point for lumber and produce of all kinds.

**Pulaski**, situated 16 miles north of Cairo, has 300 inhabitants. In this place there are three stores, a blacksmith shop, two brickyards, and a schoolhouse, which is used also as a house of worship. A large lumber business is carried on here; and six saw-mills are kept running, cutting all kinds of plow and wagon stuff, besides common lumber for building, fencing, and other purposes. The hard timber which grows in this vicinity is highly prized (particularly the oak and hickory); and there is also an abundance of cypress, poplar, and cotton-wood. There are indications of coal in this neighborhood, but no mines have been opened. Both the soil and climate are well adapted to the raising of early fruits and vegetables. During the last year, 35,000 fruit-trees and 15 acres of strawberries were planted, and in the same period ten new farms were opened. The lumber prepared at this station, and sent to market by railway, exceeded 2,113,000 feet of boards, and 804,000 shingles and laths.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.**—The land is heavily timbered with poplar, oak, cotton-wood, gum, elm, cypress, sycamore, and other trees. The soil is very deep and rich, and well adapted to cotton, tobacco, fruit, &c. The Company has about 19,000 acres for sale, at prices ranging from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per acre. The lands are situated in Alexander and Pulaski Counties.

## (SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 2.)

**Ullin**, 20 miles north of Cairo, has a population of 300, mainly engaged in the lumbering business. There are three saw-mills here, making about six million feet of poplar, oak, and cypress lumber annually; besides which, large quantities of cypress shingles are rived and shaved by hand. In Ullin are three general stores, two hotels, one boot and shoe shop, and a school attended by about 40 scholars. In 1867 this station sent forward by the railroad about 4,000,000 feet of lumber, 3,500,000 shingles, and 3,500 bbls. lime. White lime is manufactured here to the extent of 250 barrels per day, and good stone can be obtained for building purposes. Upwards of 2,000 fruit trees were planted in this vicinity last year.

**Wetaug**, 24 miles north of Cairo, has 250 inhabitants. A large lumber trade is carried on in Wetaug. Here are two churches (Lutheran and German Reformed), two schools, two stores, one hotel, three saw-mills, one blacksmith-shop, one cooper-shop, two carpenter-shops, and one wagon-shop. During the last year, eight new farms were opened near this place, and 10,000 fruit-trees planted. Winter-wheat is an abundant and a certain crop, and is extensively cultivated in this neighborhood. The lumber shipments last year were nearly 2,000,000 feet. Some cotton is raised in and about Wetaug.

**Dongola** is situated 27 miles north of Cairo, and contains 1,000 inhabitants. Three years ago the population did not exceed 300. Dongola is in the heart of the fruit region, and the cheapness of the land attracts numbers who purpose engaging in fruit culture in Southern Illinois. The land is also esteemed excellent for tobacco, cotton, and wheat. It is high and rolling and heavily timbered. Twelve new farms were put under cultivation last year: and in the same time fifty acres were planted to strawberries, and six thousand peach and pear trees set out. The business of the place keeps up seven dry-goods stores, one hardware-store, two drug-stores, millinery-store, hotel, saddle and harness shop, livery stable, photographic gallery, two blacksmith and wagon shops, three shoe-shops, and six cooper-shops. An establishment is in operation manufacturing bedsteads and wagon materials of all kinds and of the best quality. Three flouring-mills are kept running; and another, now building, will be completed in a few months. There is a well-constructed schoolhouse here, the average attendance at the schools numbering 140. Of church edifices there are two, accommodating several sects; to wit, Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Christian, and Presbyterian. Of the produce of this place, there were sent to market, by the railroad last year, 170,700 pounds cotton, 90,300 pounds tobacco, and 3,274 barrels flour, besides large quantities of lumber, dressed pork, and hides.

**Jonesboro'**, county seat of Union County, 329 miles from Chicago, and 36 from Cairo, contains a population of about 2,500. Here are two Methodist, one Presbyterian, one Roman Catholic, and two Baptist churches; two public schoolhouses, and several private schools, with an attendance altogether of 573 children. Twelve handsome residences were built the past year, and the town is prospering finely. The surrounding country is peculiarly adapted to the cultivation of fruit; 50,000 trees were planted during the last year. The peach attains a high degree of perfection. The culture of cotton is also assuming some importance. In the town there are four flouring-mills; fifteen dry-goods stores; seven retail groceries; nine blacksmith-shops; three hotels; a printing-office, issuing "The Jonesboro' Gazette;" three drug-stores; five boot and shoe shops; two saddlery-shops; two jeweller-shops; four millinery-shops; one steam barrel-factory, turning out 400 barrels a day; two lime-kilns, making 350 barrels of lime per day; one drain-tile factory, which makes a superior article of tiles; a pottery, the largest in Southern Illinois; two tan-yards; two marble-yards; one agricultural-implement warehouse; two tobacco-factories; one saw-mill; five cooper-shops; two livery-stables; two lodges of

Freemasons, two of Odd Fellows, and one of Good Templars, — united membership, 550. Daily lines of mail-stages run to Cape Girardeau, Lick Creek, and Preston. The principal shipments last year were flour, 4,532 barrels; cotton, 79,500 pounds; tobacco, 32,900 pounds; dressed pork, 37,600 pounds; apples, 1,360 barrels; and some two hundred tons of peaches, strawberries, and early vegetables.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate. —*

High, rolling timber-land, interspersed with cleared and improved farms, and well watered by many small streams. The timber is not excelled in quantity or quality in any part of the State, and consists of beech, cotton-wood, oak, ash, walnut, &c., &c. The Company offers for sale about 47,000 acres of these unimproved timber-lands, at from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per acre; the larger portion, over three miles from the road, at \$7.00 to \$8.00. No part of Southern Illinois is improving more rapidly than this; a large number of the settlers are from the more southern and border States. The wheat raised in this district ripens early, and is of superior quality. Tobacco is extensively cultivated, and much attention is now devoted to this crop, which is one of the most remunerative of any grown in the State. The attention of those who desire to enter into this branch of farming is particularly directed to this section of country. Cotton is grown to considerable extent; and fruits of all kinds are raised in large quantities, the soil and climate being peculiarly adapted to their culture. There are a number of saw-mills in the vicinity of the railroad. This plate embraces lands in Union, Johnson, Alexander, and Pulaski Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 3.)

**Cobden** (P. O. South Pass), 323 miles south from Chicago, and 42 north from Cairo. A flourishing town has grown up around this station within the past five years. This has been caused by the development of the fruit-growing facilities of the neighborhood. The high lands which prevail here are particularly adapted to the growth of peaches, apples, pears, grapes, and small fruits; and the climate is so mild that many who were invalids in colder localities have regained their health here. In 1865 the carefully-prepared statistics of the "Fruit-Growers Association of Southern Illinois" showed 147 acres of strawberries in bearing, and 230,825 fruit-trees planted: it is safe to say that there are now 300 acres of strawberries, and 400,000 trees (apples, pears, and peaches). Within the last year there have been built fifty dwelling-houses, one flouring-mill, three blacksmith-shops, five stores, two wagon-shops, one brick schoolhouse (cost \$12,000), one fruit-package factory with steam saw-mill attached, and one church (Campbellite). The Baptists have a church, and the Methodists are now building one. The South Pass Horticultural Society own a hall (28 x 55 feet) where they hold monthly meetings, and where there are religious services each Sabbath, and a flourishing Sunday school. The sweet-potato house stores 10,000 bushels. Sweet-potatoes and tomatoes are extensively cultivated. 4,125,000 pounds of peaches, apples, pears, tomatoes, and sweet-potatoes, and 450,000 pounds of strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, and grapes were shipped from this station in 1867. Population, 950. The Railroad Company will build a new passenger house at this station during the present year. Some cotton is produced here, the amount of last year's shipments being 11,700 pounds.

**Makanda** is situated between two romantic, rocky bluffs, 48 miles north of Cairo. The land in this vicinity is well adapted to almost all descriptions of farming, but more particularly to fruit-growing. It is estimated that there are more than 250,000 peach,

apple, and pear trees, and the greater part of them now in bearing order, and about two hundred acres of strawberries, and other fruits in less amount, within two and a half miles of the station. There are several vineyards of from five to fifteen acres each. Sweet-potatoes and tomatoes are extensively cultivated. The Company's land is being rapidly settled upon by industrious and intelligent families from the North and East. Land set with fruit-trees commands a high price. The peach crop in this vicinity is almost a certain one. The hills have an elevation of 400 feet above the railroad; and the deep ravines, serving as "dead-air chambers," render them free from frosts that nip the tender vegetation in less favored regions. The town is not so desirable for residences as the adjacent hills, but is in all respects a good location for manufactories. In the village there are two churches (Baptist and Methodist), a Masonic lodge of forty-five members, three stores, tin-shop, blacksmith-shop, flouring-mill, saw-mill, cloth-mill, sorghum-mill, cotton-gin, hotel, and a very fine schoolhouse recently constructed. The shipments of fruit from Makanda, by the special trains, last season, were in excess of any station except Cobden. Of other produce sent to market may be noted 7,100 pounds cotton, and 3,500 pounds tobacco.

**Carbondale** is a rapidly improving town, 57 miles north from Cairo; estimated population, 2,500. It has three flouring-mills, three carding-machines, twelve cotton-gins, nine dry-goods stores, eleven grocery-stores, four drug-stores, two furniture-stores, four grain warehouses, one agricultural-implement store, two tin-ware and stove stores, five blacksmith-shops, two hotels, one printing-office, issuing "The New Era" newspaper, five churches, and schools for seven hundred children. Among the leading productions of the place are cotton and tobacco. The shipments of cotton in 1866 amounted to 3,000 bales of 400 pounds each. One-fourth of all the tobacco grown in Illinois is sent to market from this station. In quality and fine flavor it is said to be equal to any produced in the United States. The Mt. Carbon Railroad connects with the Illinois Central Railroad at this point. In 1867 the principal shipments from this station by railway, were as follows: 1,432,500 pounds tobacco, 775,500 pounds cotton, 28,500 pounds hides, and 1,665 barrels flour.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

A finely timbered country, much broken, covered with gum, poplar, sugar-tree (maple), mulberry, oak, walnut, and ash; well watered by the Big Muddy and many small streams. The whole region is presumed to be underlaid with coal. The lands within three miles of the railroad are offered at from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per acre; those more distant at from \$7.00 to \$10.00. 50,000 acres are still for sale. The sales, since January 1, 1866, are more than double those of the previous year. There is no prairie land in the vicinity, but the country is considerably improved: the wheat raised on these lands is nowhere excelled in quality. This plate embraces lands in Union and Johnson Counties.

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#### *(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 4.)*

**De Soto**, 63 miles north of Cairo, is a thriving business-place of about 800 inhabitants. It has three churches, two schoolhouses, a printing-office, seven stores, one hotel, two flouring-mills, two saw-mills, one woollen and carding factory, and nine mechanic shops. Ten thousand fruit-trees were planted, and six new farms opened in this vicinity last year. The country is adapted to the cultivation of all kinds of fruits, and particularly apples, peaches, and strawberries. Preparations are making to plant several vineyards this year. The land is equal to the best in the State for wheat, clover, corn, sweet and Irish potatoes, and tobacco. Much valuable fruit and grain land awaits the coming of enterprising and

industrious men. Coal and timber are abundant. The Company has town lots for sale in this place. 60,000 pounds cotton, 14,200 pounds tobacco, and 1,022 barrels flour, are set down among the shipments from De Soto last year.

**Du Quoin**, 288 miles from Chicago, and 77 above Cairo, has a population of about 4,500, and is rapidly growing. Fifty new brick and frame buildings, stores, etc., were erected the last year. The place contains a foundry, a machine-shop, a planing-mill, two flouring-mills, a wood-turning shop, four blacksmith and four wagon shops, cigar manufacturing, fifteen general stores, one wholesale and six retail groceries, four drug-stores, four clothing-stores, four boot and shoe stores, four millineries, two hardware-stores, two book and stationery stores, four hotels, one furniture-store, three lumber-yards, two bakeries and flour and feed stores, and one printing-office, publishing a weekly paper, "The Recorder and Tribune." There are five schoolhouses; one costing \$25,000, for a graded school, recently completed, is now in operation. The Christian and Presbyterian Churches are of wood, and the Baptist and Methodist societies have each neat edifices of brick. The country around Du Quoin is prairie, with strips of woodland, and is exceedingly fertile. The winters are mild and pleasant, with very little snow. Great attention is paid to the cultivation of fruit, especially the peach. In the season of 1866, over 65,000 boxes, or 22,000 bushels, were sent northward. One cotton-gin is in operation, and, in 1867, over 500 bales cotton were shipped from this station. The raising of sorghum is also an important branch of industry; but the largest business is in coal, — 9 mines are in operation, and about 100,000 tons were mined in the last year. Tobacco is a staple article of all this region, as many as half a million pounds being shipped from here in a single season.

**St. Johns**, 78 miles north of Cairo, has about 800 inhabitants. The chief business of the place is mining coal, 17,000 tons of which were sent away by the railway in 1867. At this station there is a store of general merchandise, a warehouse, hotel, flouring-mill, sorghum-mill, blacksmith's shop, and a school, with an attendance of about 100 children. The township belongs chiefly to the Illinois Central Iron and Coal Mining Co. At present this concern is shipping about 350 tons of coal per day. Their mine has been greatly improved and repaired in the last six months, and at present they have about 100 miners at work.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.**—South of this region, the country is almost entirely covered with heavy timber. At this point, in going north from Cairo, we find the first prairie lands, which are of good quality, interspersed with timber, consisting of walnut, oak, sugar-tree (maple), &c., &c. The climate and soil are well adapted to raising all varieties of fruit; tobacco-growing yields a large profit; and the culture of sorghum is rapidly increasing. The lands belonging to the Company are almost entirely timber-lands. The company has now for sale about 64,000 acres, at \$10.00 to \$12.00 per acre within three miles of the railroad, and \$7.00 to \$9.00 outside of that limit. A small portion of the coal lands belonging to the Company are, for the present, reserved from sale. This plate embraces lands in Franklin, Perry, Jackson, and Williamson Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 5.)

**Tamaroa**, 85 miles north of Cairo, is a busy, prosperous town of 1,000 inhabitants. A large business in coal is transacted here; two mines have been opened, from which are raised three hundred tons per day, the coal being of a very superior quality. Fruit-trees

thrive well, and several thousand were planted during the last season. The Methodists have a church here, and two other societies — Baptist and Presbyterian — hold meetings in the schoolhouse. Here are five large and well-conducted schools, two hotels, two hardware-stores and tin-shops, two drug-stores, six stores of general merchandise, book-store, clothing-store, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, two furniture-shops, three lumber-yards, harness-factory, flouring-mill, carding-machine, &c. Large quantities of hay are pressed and sent to market. The production of cotton, tobacco, flax-seed, and cas or-beans engages the attention of the farmers in this vicinity. Daily lines of stages are run from Tamaroa, both east and west. During the last year there were sent to market from this station, 20,000 tons of coal, 237,800 lbs. tobacco, 36,100 lbs. cotton, and 10,120 bushels oats.

**Dubois**, 91 miles north of Cairo, is in a region where the prairie and the wood-land are about equal. In this section are some of the best fruit-lands in southern Illinois. It is on the northern boundary of the great coal-field. The Railroad Company has many excellent tracts of land in this neighborhood still unsold. Many improvements have been recently made in the county adjacent to this station. During the last year thirty new farms were opened, — mainly fruit-farms, — and about 5,000 fruit-trees were set out. The present population of Dubois is 500. The place supports two good schools, which are attended by about 125 scholars; a large hotel will be opened this spring; a coal-shaft has been sunk, and furnishes fuel for the town; a Baptist and a Methodist church have been erected; and there are in operation five sorghum-mills, one flouring-mill, three stores, two blacksmith-shops, and two wagon-shops.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.**—The land in this region consists about equally of timber and prairie. The lands still held by the Company are almost entirely timbered lands. The country is well watered by the Little Muddy and Beaucoup and their branches. The timber consists of sugar-tree (maple), walnut, oak, ash, &c. Climate and soil are well adapted to the raising of wheat, fruit, and tobacco; all kinds of vegetables do well. The culture of tobacco has largely increased since the rebellion, and henceforth it promises to be one of the most important crops of the State. The attention of those who are acquainted with its culture is called to this district. The Company has still for sale about 77,000 acres, at prices ranging from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per acre; the larger portion of the land over three miles from the railroad is held at the lower price. This plate embraces lands in Washington, Jefferson, Perry, and Franklin Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 6.)

**Ashley**, 99 miles north of Cairo, is pleasantly situated on a gently rolling prairie which is watered by many small streams. The population is about 1,500. It is a place of considerable trade, and has thirteen stores for the sale of almost every description of merchandise, four hotels, three flouring-mills, one woollen-factory, one agricultural-implement factory, one saw-mill, four blacksmith-shops, four wagon-shops, and four lumber-yards. There are three churches (one Baptist, and two Methodist), and a large public-school building, accommodating four schools. Stages run daily to Nashville and Mt. Vernon. Eight thousand fruit-trees and fifteen acres of small plants were set out last year. About fifty thousand pounds of wool were clipped and worked up here. The flour of the Ashley mills is justly celebrated, and commands a high price. The shipments of this article by

rail last year, amounted to upwards of 23,000 bbls. Cotton and tobacco are also articles of export, — to the extent, last year, of 10,900 lbs. cotton, and 158,800 lbs. tobacco.

**Richview**, 102 miles north of Cairo, has a population estimated at 1,500. Within the last twelve months more than twenty new farms have been opened in this vicinity by men who intend making fruit the principal crop. 170,000 fruit-trees have been set out, the half of which are in bearing. This is one of the best shipping points on the line of the road; and more business is done here than in some places having double the population. The society in the town and vicinity is excellent; the land is considered equal in fertility to any in the State; and altogether it is a very prosperous neighborhood. Within a year and a half thirty-six dwelling-houses of good and substantial character have been built in Richview, together with two brick churches (one Methodist and one Baptist), a brick schoolhouse erected at a cost of \$6,000, and a large business block, also of brick, the third story of which is owned and occupied by the Freemasons and Odd Fellows. In this place there are five churches, four of which have houses of worship, four public and two private schools, and a seminary for advanced scholars; five dry-goods stores, two drug-stores, one hardware and furniture store, two hotels, three cabinet-shops, two harness and saddlery shops, one tin and stove store, a marble-shop, an extensive lumber-yard, a flouring-mill, saw-mill, and two grain warehouses. 5,200 bushels wheat, 3,100 bbls. flour, 440 beef-cattle, and 650 hogs were shipped from this station last year.

**Irvington**, 6 miles south of Centralia, is situated in the centre of the richest farming prairie in Southern Illinois. Improved farms are selling in the vicinity at high figures. The Illinois Agricultural College is located here. The farm connected with this college, nearly a section of land in extent, lies west of the town and adjacent to the station. A handsome college building, three stories high, costing over \$24,000, and a large boarding-house in connection, costing about the same amount, have been finished in good style, and are now in successful operation under the charge of the president, Rev. D. P. French, assisted by competent professors. Irvington is situated on the east side of the railroad, on a plat of rising ground, giving it a view of a large scope of country around. Improvements at this station were commenced in 1863, and at present it contains eighty buildings and a population of upwards of three hundred. There is one Baptist church, and the Methodists and Christians also contemplate building. There are four dry-goods stores, one grocery-store, two harness-shops, four grain warehouses, a steam flouring-mill, wagon-factory, wagon-shop, and blacksmith's shop. Two hay-presses are kept busy most of the year. Considerable attention is given to raising cattle and mules. Sheep-raising is attracting attention; over 20,000 lbs. of wool were clipped the last year. This is destined to be a leading place for trade in fruit, — peaches, strawberries, and grapes. It is estimated that 8,000 trees and eight or ten acres of strawberries were set last season. Irvington has a healthy location, is a place of good society, and superior educational and business advantage. The shipments of flour last year amounted to 8,354 bbls.; of wheat, 4,800 bushels; and of oats, 8,600 bushels.

At Hoyleton, 6 miles west of Irvington, a colony of Northern and Eastern people was formed on railroad land in 1857, under the auspices of Rev. J. A. Bent. The success of this colony has not been surpassed by any in the State, and experience has justified the statements as to the extreme healthfulness of the district. A few miles west of here is a flourishing German settlement (New Minden), with several stores, three churches, one — the Lutheran — being a fine building. The surrounding country is almost entirely under cultivation, wheat being the principal crop.

**Centralia**, 253 miles south from Chicago, and 112 miles north from Cairo, at the junction of the Chicago Branch with the main line of the Illinois Central Railroad, is a thriving city of 5,000 inhabitants. It is located in the centre of a good farming district,

and has the trade of a large section of country. It contains eight churches, — Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist, Christian, Roman Catholic, Episcopal, and two Baptist; two large and three small schools, two weekly newspapers, five hotels, one plane-factory, two wagon-shops, and fifty stores of all descriptions. The Railroad Company have an extensive machine-shop and foundry here. A good deal of attention is given to the cultivation of fruit, and large shipments were made in the season of '67, — by the fruit train upwards of 300 tons, and by express 600 tons, principally peaches for the Chicago market.

*Central City* is situated northward of Centralia, something less than two miles distant, and is a steadily-growing place, at this time having a population of 1,000. Fifteen new farms were opened last year, and 22,000 fruit-trees and 100 acres of strawberries planted. The wool-clip is set down at 2,000 lbs. Early vegetables are cultivated to some extent, and shipped to Chicago, Dubuque, and other points north. The village contains 160 dwelling-houses, three churches, three schools, two hotels, one steam-mill, two cabinet-shops, two blacksmith-shops, three shoe-shops, two wagon-shops, two breweries, one drug-store, and one tin-shop.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.*—The lands are about equally divided between timber and prairie. The prairie land owned by the Company has been mostly sold; there are, however, a few tracts of fine prairie still for sale. The land held by the Company on the east side of the railroad is generally timbered, a large portion of it a young growth of oak, ash, and some bass-wood, &c. The Company has about 34,000 acres still for sale. The price of prairie-land ranges from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per acre, — the outside land from \$7.00 to \$10.00, — a large proportion at the lower figure. The lands lie in Washington, Jefferson, Clinton, and Marion Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 7.)

*Odin*, at the intersection of the Chicago Branch of the Illinois Central with the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, is 224 miles south of Chicago, 121 miles north of Cairo, and 65 miles east of St. Louis. The location of Odin gives it the command of four markets, — Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Cairo, — making it one of the best shipping points in Southern Illinois. The hay-trade is important, the shipments ranging from 1,000 to 1,500 tons per annum. The population of Odin is about 1,500, and is steadily increasing, and the place shows every sign of a prosperous inland town. The country is being rapidly brought under cultivation. A majority of the settlers are from Ohio, and are an intelligent and thrifty people. About 500 acres of land have been planted the last year with various kinds of fruit-trees. The wool-clip is large. During the last year a number of fine three-story brick buildings were erected, and probably as many more will be built the coming season. There are in this place four churches, — Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Methodist, and Protestant Methodist, and the building of another is contemplated by the sect called Christian, — two schools, thirty-five stores of one description and another, four large hotels, one first-class grist-mill, one planing-mill, and four carriage and wagon factories. 880 tons of hay were shipped from this station last year, and also numbers of live stock, and 14,000 bushels of grain.

*Tonti* is 5 miles north of Odin. At present there are no dwelling-houses just around the railway station, but a store is now in course of erection, and several other buildings will be put up during the coming year. In this neighborhood fruit seems to do well, and there are a number of fine orchards (both apple and peach) in bearing condition.

During the last season 26,000 boxes of peaches were sent to market from this station. Salem (the county-seat of Marion County), situated three miles south-easterly from Tonti, has a population of 2,000, and is rapidly improving. It now contains four churches, a female college, and other schools; two newspapers, twenty stores, two hotels, two lumber-yards, two flouring-mills, two sorghum-mills, and two saw-mills. The court-house, a spacious, high building, was built about four years ago.

*Alma*, 10 miles north of Odin, is a place of about 200 inhabitants. It is situated in the midst of fine rolling prairie, and the country around is well settled up. The place contains three stores, two blacksmith-shops, two carpenter-shops, one wagon-shop, one saw-mill, and a schoolhouse which receives 125 scholars. There are ten peach-orchards, having upwards of 300 acres in trees, within two miles of the town. Large quantities of small fruit are sent to market from this place. About 4,000 lbs. of wool were clipped in this vicinity last year.

*Kinmundy*, 15 miles north of Odin, is a thriving town of 2,000 inhabitants, having a good country trade, and growing as rapidly as any place in this section of the State. Upwards of fifty houses were erected last year. The land in this vicinity is highly esteemed for wheat, and for fruit is especially productive; 200,000 fruit-trees are already in bearing. Within a mile and a half of the station are two good nurseries. Kinmundy contains three churches, having houses of worship, — Methodist, Cumberland Presbyterian, and Congregational, — and a Baptist society has also been organized; a graded school (a first-class building) of 600 scholars, and two select schools; twenty-three stores, to wit, ten dry-goods, four grocery, two drug, two hardware, two furniture, two fancy-goods, and one book store, two hotels, two combined grist and saw mills, an extensive tobacco-factory, two lumber-yards, a woollen-factory, several sorghum-mills, and mechanics' shops — blacksmith's, carpenter's, cabinet-maker's, cooper's, wagon and harness maker's, etc. A large four-story brick flouring-mill was erected last summer. Fifty new farms were put under cultivation in 1867. Two hay-presses are kept busy the year round. Large numbers of horned cattle, sheep, and mules are raised in this vicinity. During the last year, the shipments from this station included 24,000 bushels of corn, 11,200 bushels of oats, 2,600 bushels of wheat, 140 tons of hay, 3,000 lbs. of wool, 5,300 hogs, 975 sheep, and 450 beeves.

*Sandoval* is at the crossing of the Main Line of the Illinois Central and the Ohio and Mississippi Railroads. The country round about is rapidly settling up, no less than seventy new farms having been opened last year. At this time, the town has 1,000 inhabitants and 300 houses. It is estimated that there are 40,000 fruit-trees growing in the vicinity of Sandoval, and that upwards of 5,000 sheep were sheared last season. At the station there are two churches, and religious services are also held in two halls; two schoolhouses, — one of brick, recently constructed at a cost of \$8,000; seven stores, four hotels, one flouring-mill, eleven mechanic shops, and two grain-warehouses. Distance from Chicago 250 miles, and from St. Louis 61 miles. The Ohio and Mississippi Railroad Company have an engine-house and shops at this place, which give employment to many mechanics. Four markets, as at Odin, are at the option of the farmer and business-man. The Company has town-lots for sale at this station. About 50,000 bushels of grain were sent forward to market from this station last year.

*Patoka*, 13 miles north of the junction of the Branch and Main Line. Population, 354. The town contains one steam flour-mill, two steam saw-mills, blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop, two carpenter-shops, harness-shop, hotel, shoe-shop, five dry-goods stores, two drug-stores, and a family grocery. The school is attended by ninety children. The Presbyterians have a church, while the Methodists, Baptists, and Disciples worship in the

schoolhouse. The town contains about 60 dwellings. At least twenty new farms have been opened in close proximity to the station in the last year. Several thousand fruit-trees have been planted. The extent of land now in wheat is largely over any previous year. This crop, when properly managed, has never failed to give a rich return to the farmer. Fall-wheat, well put in, is always remunerative in this locality; and, notwithstanding the light crop of 1867, it yielded *an average* of \$16.00 per acre to the producer; and, in one instance, \$45.00 per acre to a farmer who used a new species of wheat as seed. Good substantial farmers from Kentucky and Ohio are settling in this vicinity; and in a few years the vast prairies will be under cultivation, and small grain and fruit become the great staples of production. The principal shipments from this station last year were wheat and corn, — 4,700 bushels of the former, and 26,600 bushels of the latter.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.*—The land in this district consists, in about equal quantities, of small prairies and timber. The lands for sale by the company are, for the most part, timbered; although there are yet a large number of tracts of good prairie land. It is essentially a wheat district; that sown upon the ground after first breaking (sod wheat) is an almost certain crop. There are still for sale about 36,000 acres, at prices ranging from \$7.00 to \$13.00 and upwards per acre; the larger portion of the lands over three miles from a station range from \$7.00 to \$10.00 per acre. The fine prairie lands south and west of Sandoval are held higher, — \$12.00 to \$15.00 per acre. The lands lie in Clinton, Bond, Clay, and Marion Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 8.)

*Farina* is 223 miles south of Chicago, and 29 miles north of Centralia. One large brick store and a number of dwelling-houses were built last year, and the prospects of the place are growing better, year by year, as the country around is settled up. At the station there are three grain warehouses, one hotel, four stores, a merchant tailor's shop, three blacksmith-shops, hardware-store, flouring-mill, carding-machine, and hay-press. There is a brisk trade carried on in corn, wheat, sorghum, and hay. In the school district there are upwards of 200 children, and a very good schoolhouse was erected during the last summer. A handsome church was also completed, and is now used by the denomination called Seventh-day Baptists. A good number of the inhabitants are from the Middle States, and some from Ohio, Wisconsin, and Michigan, — a considerable majority being Seventh-day Baptists. There is a good opening here for mechanics. This promises to be a first-class fruit section, as all kinds of fruit-trees grow and produce bountifully. Several large orchards were planted, and much fruit — peaches, apples, strawberries, and blackberries — shipped during the last season. Nearly every farm has fruit-trees growing, and in fine condition. As a stock-raising country this has no superior, — in some places the streams are running the year round, and there is always plenty of water in wells from 15 to 40 feet deep. Several parties are now making arrangements for manufacturing cheese during the coming summer. 22,250 bushels corn, 6,700 bushels oats, 20,400 lbs. dressed pork, 2,000 lbs. wool, and 8,100 lbs. hides were sent to market from Farina last year.

*Laclede*, 4 miles south of Edgewood, is a recently established station; and, at the present time, contains 32 dwelling-houses and about 200 inhabitants. The village has a church, schoolhouse, three stores, blacksmith-shop, plow-factory, wagon-shop, flouring-mill, and saw-mill. During the last year forty-seven new farms were opened, and 31,700 fruit-trees planted within a radius of three miles from the station. In the same district the wool-clip of last year was 4,750 lbs. Several farmers are engaged in the mak-

ing of cheese. Much interest is manifested in the cultivation of fruit. A few apple-orchards, planted twenty years ago, have proven that the apple crop never fails. The peach is not so certain; but, in the last ten years, there have been six bounteous crops of this fruit. The small fruits—strawberries, gooseberries, &c.—yield abundantly, and large profits have accrued to the fruiterers. The grape has been planted in many localities hereabouts, and proves to be a prolific bearer. In the timber-land there are many sunny hillsides which, if cleared up and planted in grapes, would doubtless be as productive as any vineyards in the county. Ten acres of vines would yield a much larger income than a quarter-section of land planted in the usual crops.

**Edgewood**, 215 miles south of Chicago, is a place of about 300 inhabitants, and contains three grain warehouses, a flouring-mill, hotel, three blacksmith-shops, six stores of various kinds, harness-shop, two shoe-shops, and two cooper-shops. There is a good schoolhouse, and the school is attended by 120 scholars. A Roman Catholic church has been erected; the Baptists and Methodists have organized societies, and have regular religious services. The town is steadily improving. This is a fine wheat district; and the fruit crop is almost a sure one. The farming country around Edgewood is being rapidly taken up and finely improved. Near the village are two good saw-mills. Some settlers from Michigan are located here; and many Germans. 5,600 lbs. wool, 1,174 live hogs, 43,800 lbs. dressed pork, and 7,700 bushels corn are among the shipments from this point last year.

**Mason**, 212 miles south of Chicago, is a thriving place of nearly 800 inhabitants. It is situated on an elevated portion of a beautiful rolling prairie, timber of various kinds plentiful and close at hand, and water in an abundant supply. This locality is remarkably healthy, and the surrounding country is well settled with an enterprising class of people from the Eastern and Middle States. Two railroads have been lately chartered,—one leading from Shawneetown to a point near Mason; and another, from St. Louis to Terre Haute, is already graded to Vandalia,—and it is confidently expected that both will strike this town, making it an important railroad centre. Coal is found within three miles of Mason, and the State Geologist affirms that a seven-foot bed will be struck at a depth of eighty feet from the surface. More than 16,000 lbs. of wool were clipped in this vicinity last summer. Large quantities of hay are produced here. Mason contains two churches (Baptist and Methodist), and \$6,000 are now subscribed towards the erection of a new Methodist church; a large two-story brick schoolhouse, accommodating 200 pupils; also three grain warehouses, one flouring-mill, steam saw-mill, lath and shingle machine, three hotels, four blacksmith-shops, three carriage-shops, two harness-shops, one marble-shop, two agricultural warehouses, two clothing-stores, four groceries, one hardware-store, one jewelry-store, two drug-stores, one boot and shoe store, and two livery-stables. There is a fruit nursery near by the village, and a large number of fruit-trees, many of them now in bearing, have been set by the town's people. During the last year thirty new farms were opened in this neighborhood. In the year 1867, the shipments by the railway were as follows: 15,800 bushels corn, 3,000 bushels oats, 3,800 lbs. wool, 46,000 lbs. dressed pork, and 1,364 live hogs.

**Watson**, 206 miles from Chicago, is in a healthy district, and is slowly but steadily improving. Many settlers from Ohio are located in the vicinity. The soil is good,—well adapted to fruits of all kinds, wheat and vegetables. Ten thousand fruit-trees were planted last year. Ten new farms were opened, and about 2,000 lbs. of wool clipped. The village at the station has thirty houses and 200 inhabitants; one flouring-mill, two steam saw-mills, four mechanics-shops,—blacksmith, cabinet, wagon, and boot and shoe,—one spoke and hub factory, four stores, two hotels. The two schoolhouses suffice for 100 pupils on week-days, and serve to accommodate, on Sundays, the four religious denomi-

nations into which the town is divided. A large quantity of railroad-ties, fence-posts, and hard-wood lumber are manufactured, and shipped from here; and in the last year the export of corn amounted to 15,200 bushels.

**Shobouier**,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Vandalia. The farming land in this vicinity is being rapidly settled upon by an enterprising and industrious class of inhabitants, and is steadily rising in value. Among the settlers are many educated Germans. The village has 200 inhabitants, one church, one schoolhouse (and another in process of building, to cost \$2,000), a flouring-mill, reported to make the best flour in the country, a saw-mill, two fine country stores, a drug-store, two hotels, a stove-factory, and blacksmith, carpenter, wagon-maker, and cabinet shops. During the last year twenty-two new farms were opened in the vicinity of this station, and 20,000 fruit-trees planted. A greater breadth of land was sown to wheat than in any previous year.

**Vandalia**, the county-seat of Fayette County, is on the Main Line of the Illinois Central Railroad, twenty-eight miles above the junction with the Chicago Branch, and 237 miles from Chicago. The population of the place is about 2,500. It contains two flouring-mills, a foundery, two woollen-mills, and other manufacturing establishments of various kinds, thirty stores of all descriptions, and four hotels. There is an excellent graded school, with 200 pupils. Here are five churches,—Presbyterian, Methodist, German Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and German Methodist. Two newspapers are published here,—“The Fayette Democrat” and “The Vandalia Union.” The town is beautifully situated on rising ground, surrounded by wooded hills. Early settled, and formerly the capital of the State, it languished upon the removal of the seat of government to Springfield, but has recently started afresh, and is now likely to become one of the more important towns of the State. The business of the place increases about twenty-five per cent each year. Within a year there have been erected a Presbyterian and a Methodist church, costing \$20,000 apiece, two four-story brick woollen-mills, one large brick livery-stable, and about twenty first-class stores and dwelling-houses. There were shipped from here in 1867, to wit, 68,500 bushels corn, 44,390 bushels wheat, 13,400 bushels oats, 3,300 bushels rye, 33,800 lbs. wool, 215,300 lbs. dressed pork, 5,522 live hogs, and 51,700 lbs. tobacco. The National Road, built by the Government in 1836, leads from Vandalia in a north-easterly direction.

**Vera** is a new station, 5 miles north from Vandalia. Some of the best farms in Fayette County are situated in this neighborhood. The population of the village at the railway station is about 100, and there is a good schoolhouse, two stores, one hotel, one fine steam flour-mill, two steam saw-mills, blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop, and broom-factory. Ten new farms were opened last year, and 300,000 fruit-trees planted. The wool-clip for 1867 amounted to 50,000 lbs. A coal-vein has been opened, and, on the whole, the prospects of the speedy growth of the place are very encouraging.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.**—This section of the country is about equally divided between small prairies and timber. Good well-water can be generally obtained at a depth of fifteen to twenty feet. Winter-wheat is here the standard crop. The great corn-producing districts are farther north. For men with small means, this neighborhood is desirable, owing to the cheapness of building materials. A log-house can be built at a very small cost. The timber consists of hickory, oak, &c. The Company has for sale about 45,000 acres of land, at from \$7.00 to \$11.00 per acre, and a few tracts at higher figures. This plate embraces land in Montgomery, Bond, Fayette, Effingham, and Clay Counties.

## (SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 9.)

**Ramsey**, 13 miles north of Vandalia, is a village of 130 houses and 500 inhabitants, situated in a small prairie, and surrounded by a large scope of well-timbered land. The surface is level, and the soil well-adapted to the raising of fruit and vegetables. The cutting and preparing of railway ties, posts, and cord-wood, affords employment to numbers of workmen, and gives considerable business to the town. The prospect for future growth and prosperity is encouraging. Six new farms were put under cultivation last year. In this place there are two churches (Methodist and Missionary Baptist), two schools with an aggregate of 160 pupils, one hotel, one grist-mill, one grist and saw mill combined, six stores, three carpenter-shops, one wagon-shop, two blacksmith-shops, one gunsmith-shop, two cooper-shops, and a steam flouring-mill. There were sent forward from this station last year 194,000 feet lumber, 850 hogs, 1,480 bbls. flour, and 1,900 bushels corn.

**Oconee**, 7 miles south of Pana, has been incorporated by the Legislature, and is now a town of one square mile in extent. About sixty new farms were opened last year, a majority of the settlers being Germans. The level and rolling prairie lands are interspersed with groves of timber, and are well watered. The climate and soil are well adapted for fruit, and much attention is given to this branch of agriculture. Within the last twelve months, 100,000 peach-trees, 10,000 apple-trees, 5,000 pear-trees, 2,000 cherry-trees, and 1,000 quince-trees were set out. The cultivation of the grape, the strawberry, and blackberry, are steadily on the increase. The peaches produced here are noted for their flavor, size, and color. Winter-wheat does well in this vicinity. There is a grain warehouse at the station, several stores, and a church, lately built by the Methodist society. A large district schoolhouse will be erected in the course of the next summer.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—**

A considerable portion of the land south of Oconee is timbered. This is the limit of the heavily timbered country, going north. A large lumber business in oak, hickory, walnut, maple, ash, butternut, and all hard woods, is done on the lands adjacent to the Kaskaskia River, and several saw-mills are at work on its banks near the railroad. The Company has 31,000 acres for sale in this district, mostly at \$7.00 to \$10.00 per acre, and some few tracts at slightly higher prices. The lands west and north of Oconee, adjacent to the Terre Haute and Alton Railroad, and about 80 miles north-east of St. Louis by that route, are very fine, high, rolling, prairie lands, and are held at prices ranging from \$9.00 to \$12.00 per acre. The Company has no better lands at lower prices. This plate embraces lands in Montgomery, Shelby, and Fayette Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 10.)

**Pana** is situated at the intersection of the Main Line of the Illinois Central with the Terre Haute, Alton, and St. Louis Railroad, 220 miles south-east of Chicago, and 95 miles north-east of St. Louis. A railroad is also in progress to Springfield, the capital of the State. The population, by census taken in October, 1867, is 3,100. Two hundred dwelling-houses were erected last year, and also many costly brick stores. A new public school building has just been completed at a cost of upwards of \$30,000. The Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and Roman-Catholic denominations have each their houses of worship. Here, too, is one of the finest hotels in Southern Illinois, built and

furnished at an outlay of \$75,000. There are sixty stores and business-houses in operation, and a number of steam-mills, — to wit, two flouring-mills, one woollen-mill, one sash and door factory, and one furniture-factory, and also a grain elevator, which is worked by steam-power. Immigration continues to set in this direction, and more than one hundred new farms in the vicinity of Pana were broken to cultivation last year. The wool-clip of this district is very important, and the raising of cattle, mules, horses, hogs, &c., is increasing. Wheat and oats are grown in large quantities; and at this point, in going north, we first reach the great corn-growing region. Large areas are being planted to fruit of all descriptions, and particularly peaches, apples, pears, and grapes. The exports of grain from this place are very large, considerably exceeding 100,000 bushels per annum; besides which, in the year 1867, there were shipped 1,560 beef cattle, 475 horses and mules, 450 sheep, 800 hogs, 4,700 lbs. wool, and 1,653 bbls. flour.

*Assumption*, 9 miles north of Pana, has 150 houses, and 800 inhabitants. It has two churches, — Presbyterian and Roman Catholic; two schools, one hotel, steam flouring-mill, five grain warehouses, three wagon and plow factories, four blacksmith-shops, two boot and shoe shops, and twenty-two stores of one kind and another. The business of this prosperous little town has rapidly increased in the last three years. The soil and climate are adapted to the growth of all kinds of grain and fruit. Fruit-trees are planted as fast as the farms are taken up. Apple-trees bear in five years after being planted, and peach-trees in three years. About fifty new farms were brought under cultivation last year. The growth of the town is in no small degree due to the enterprise of Mr. E. E. Malhiot, who, in 1857, planted a colony of French Canadians in this neighborhood. The settlement, consisting for the most part of small farmers, is now in a thriving condition, and comprises about 200 families, who cultivate 12,000 acres, and have many horses, cattle, hogs, etc. Sorghum is raised here in considerable quantities. Wool is also one of the principal commodities of this region. Enormous quantities of produce are sent to market from Assumption, — in the last year, 109,190 bushels corn, 35,130 bushels wheat, 22,240 bushels oats, 4,267 bbls. flour, 29,700 lbs. wool, and many beef cattle, hogs, and sheep.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.*—

This district consists of high, rolling prairies, with an abundance of heavy timber along the banks of the various streams. The lands still held by the Company are almost entirely prairie, but plenty of timber can be purchased of private individuals. About 4,000 acres still remain unsold, at prices ranging from \$9.00 to \$15.00 per acre, and a few tracts near the road at higher figures. These lands are in Shelby and Christian Counties.

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#### (SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 11.)

*Moawequa*, in Shelby County, 15 miles south of Decatur, and 183 miles from Chicago (via the Illinois Central and Great Western Railroads), contains 150 dwelling-houses, and 700 inhabitants. The Methodists have a meeting-house, and three other religious sects — Presbyterian, Baptist, and Christian — are arranging to build places of worship at an early season. A large brick schoolhouse, built at a cost of \$7,000, has just been completed. At this station there are four dry-goods stores, four groceries, six mechanics-shops, steam flouring-mill, saw-mill, and a hotel. The wool sent forward from this station last season amounted to 175,000 lbs. The farmers in this neighborhood are very prosperous, and give extraordinary attention to the improvement of their lands. Sixty-

five new farms were put under cultivation hereabouts in 1867, and it is estimated that as many more will be opened this season. Some attention is given to the cultivation of flax; and fruit-trees are not neglected, as many as 5,000 having been planted last year. Among the shipments from this station last year were 65,760 bushels corn, 51,330 bushels wheat, 11,670 bushels oats, 4,355 hogs, 530 cattle, and 445 sheep.

**Macon**, 10 miles south of Decatur, is situated on the fertile ridge which extends along the south side of the Sangamon from Springfield to Tolono. This ridge is as good wheat land as any in the State, and second to no other locality in its adaptation to other grains cultivated in Illinois. During the year 1867, over sixty new farms were opened out in this vicinity, and four nurseries started to supply the constantly increasing demand for fruit and ornamental trees and hedges. At the present time Macon contains 160 dwelling-houses (40 of which have been erected in the past season) and 1,000 inhabitants, three churches (Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman, Catholic), a large brick schoolhouse of the academic class, a flouring-mill, three sorghum-mills, one grain-warehouse, two steam-elevators with capacity for storing 20,000 bushels of grain each, two hotels, five dry-goods stores, two drug-stores, one hardware-store, two restaurants, three blacksmith-shops, two harness-shops, two wagon-shops, one plow-shop, and two boot and shoe stores. The shipments from this station for the year 1867 were as follows: 79,840 bushels wheat, 268,520 bushels corn, 26,770 bushels oats, 11,000 bushels rye and barley, 35,800 lbs. wool, 525 sheep, 352 beeves, and 3,500 hogs.

**Wheatland**, 6 miles south of Decatur, has 160 inhabitants, the township containing a population of 1,000. The farming lands are well watered, near to timber, and equal in fertility to any in the State. Improved farms sell readily at from \$40.00 to \$80.00 per acre. About 7,000 fruit-trees were planted during the last season. The wool-clip yielded 4,000 lbs. At this station there is a warehouse, with steam corn-sheller, and elevators capable of handling 4,000 bushels grain per day, two stores of general merchandise, a blacksmith-shop, and a wagon-shop. The United Brethren have a brick meeting-house, and there is a schoolhouse sufficiently capacious for the children of the town. Many improvements are going on, and the number of dwelling-houses will be considerably increased this year. The shipments from this station in 1867 were 97,950 bushels corn, and 30,000 bushels of oats and wheat.

**Decatur**, the capital of Macon County, is situated at the intersection of the Illinois Central and the Great Western Railroads, 168 miles south-west of Chicago, 204 miles north of Cairo, and 40 miles east of Springfield, the seat of government of the State. It contains 9,500 inhabitants, and is incorporated as a city. The place has largely increased in business, wealth, and population within the last few years; and, indeed, all its prosperity dates from the building of the Illinois Central Railroad. The country is watered by the Sangamon and its branches; the soil being of extraordinary fertility, producing large crops of Indian corn, wheat, barley, flax, sorghum, timothy, clover, potatoes, &c. There are several extensive manufacturing concerns in Decatur, among which may be noted the agricultural works of Barber & Hawley (located near the railway station), devoted principally to the making of sulkey plows, — now extensively used in the culture of corn, and one of the best labor-saving machines ever invented, — employing 150 men, and turning out \$10,000 worth of agricultural implements weekly; and also the extensive pump and agricultural-implement manufactory of Barnes & Lintner; four steam flouring-mills, making 450 barrels of flour per day; a woollen-mill; carding-mill; linseed-oil mill; paper-mill; flax-mill; sash and door factory; seven coopering establishments; two marble-yards; and large furniture works. There are nineteen stationary steam-engines in use in the mills and shops here. There are two founderies and machine-shops, one large

distillery, two breweries, two livery-stables, two grain warehouses, two malt-houses, and five wagon and carriage shops. The stores, of which there are as many as seventy-five of various kinds, do a large trade with the country round about. The churches are twelve in number, and supply the religious wants of many denominations, to wit, Episcopal, Methodist-Episcopal (two), Baptist, Presbyterian (two), Catholic, Campbellite, Protestant-Methodist, United Brethren, Winebrenarian, German-Methodist, and African-Baptist. The Roman-Catholic church erected here is the finest in the State, outside of Chicago. Here are two excellent high schools, a female seminary under the charge of Rev. Dr. Totten, rector of the Episcopal church, and a goodly number of public schools of lower grade. About twenty new mercantile establishments, mostly wholesale, a paper-mill, and an extensive broom-manufactory, are now in successful operation. There are ten hotels in Decatur, four printing-offices, three weekly newspapers, and three banks.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

The land is high, rolling prairie, of remarkable fertility, with plenty of timber within a reasonable distance, to be purchased of individuals. The Company has about 7,000 acres still for sale, the greater portion being in the large prairies east and west of the railroad, at from \$9.00 to \$14.00 and upwards per acre. Nowhere has the Company better lands at so low a price. In the settlement of Todd's Point, south-east of Moawequa, there are 20,000 merino sheep, in large flocks.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 12.)

*Forsyth*, 5 miles north of Decatur, is a small town, where considerable business is transacted. Situated in the midst of a good farming country, it is a convenient shipping point. Corn is the main crop, an average of 100,000 bushels per year being sent forward to market. Many new farms and orchards have been recently started, and almost all the land in the vicinity has been taken up and fenced. At the station, there are two large grain warehouses, one of which has a set of burr-stones to grind corn; the schoolhouse serves also as a house of worship for the Baptists and the Methodists; there are two stores in the place, having a general trade with the surrounding country. The shipments of grain from this station last year amounted to 140,000 bushels,—115,700 bushels corn, 12,000 bushels wheat, and 12,300 bushels oats, barley, and rye.

*Maroa*, 13 miles north of Decatur, contains about 1,000 inhabitants. It has three churches, twenty-five stores of various kinds, a large steam grist-mill, an extensive hay-pressing concern, and two lumber-yards. There is a large brick schoolhouse in which four schools are taught. A good business is done in hay and grain. The surrounding country has increased largely in population within the last three years, and many fine farms have been started. The shipments from this station in 1867 were 209,330 bushels corn, 53,870 bushels wheat, 24,200 bushels oats, 4,700 hogs, and 695 beef cattle.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

This is a prairie country, with some timber on the banks of the few streams which water the district. The soil is very fertile, and the prairie generally slightly undulating, in some cases rather flat, but admirable for stock, hay, hogs, &c., of which large quantities are raised here. During the past year, attention has been directed to the cultivation of flax, which succeeds well, and which promises, with the improved method of preparing the fibre, to become one of the standard crops. Corn, wheat, and oats all do well; but the

former is the largest and most reliable of the grain crops. The Company has now for sale about 11,000 acres, at prices ranging from \$9.00 to \$14.00, — a large portion at the lower prices, say \$9.00 to \$12.00 per acre. These lands are in Piatt and Macon Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 13.)

**Clinton**, the county-seat of De Witt County, is situated midway between Decatur and Bloomington, 174 miles from Chicago. Estimated population of the town, 4,000. Great progress has been manifested in this neighborhood during the past year. Proposals for bids for the building of a schoolhouse, to cost \$40,000, have been advertised for. Fifty new farms were opened; more than 10,000 peach, apple, and other fruit-trees were planted; the wool-clip amounted to 94,000 lbs.; 1,000,000 Osage orange-plants were delivered at the station, and will be set out for hedges this spring. Clinton is an old settled district, and was organized in 1845. Here are four churches, — Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, and Christian, — the Baptist erected quite recently, at a cost of \$6,000. There are a number of excellent public schools, and artisans and professional men to meet the wants of the community. The manufacturing interest embraces two flouring-mills, one carding-mill, one planing-mill, one broom-factory, one plow-factory, two carriage-factories, two establishments for working marble, four wagon-shops, two saddle and harness shops, and three boot and shoe shops. There are about thirty stores for the sale of dry-goods, groceries, clothing, drugs, furniture, hardware, etc., as well as a printing-office, two hotels, and charitable associations of Masons, Odd Fellows, and Good Templars. The principal shipments by the railroad during the last year were 78,000 bushels wheat, 80,420 bushels corn, 14,280 bushels oats, 7,600 hogs, 95,200 lbs. wool, 40,920 lbs. broom corn, 320 dozen brooms, 110 bushels castor beans, and many sheep, horses, and other cattle.

**Wapella**, 18 miles south of Bloomington, is a prosperous village of 700 inhabitants, in the centre of one of the most fruitful sections of the State. New farms are being opened almost daily, and improved farms are held at from \$35.00 to \$50.00 per acre. There are indications that all this district is underlaid with coal. The wool-clip last year amounted to 12,000 lbs.; 8,000 fruit-trees and fifteen miles of hedge were planted. The Railroad Company has a repair-shop, an engine-house, and freight-house at Wapella. The place contains three churches (Roman Catholic, Methodist, and Christian), schoolhouses, four dry-goods stores, three grocery-stores, drug-store, two hotels, two lumber-yards, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, two shoe-shops, and one millinery-shop. The Company have town lots for sale here. The chief articles of shipment for the last year were wheat, 35,070 bushels; corn, 75,630 bushels; oats and barley, 15,350 bushels; hogs, 2,400; wool, 3,000 lbs.

**Heyworth**, 11 miles south of Bloomington, is situated in a fruitful district, and has a population amounting to nearly 1,000. Twenty new farms were opened in the vicinity of Heyworth last year; the wool-clip was equal to 10,000 fleeces; and 5,000 fruit-trees were planted. There are in this place two churches (Methodist and Presbyterian), a graded school with 400 pupils in attendance, three dry-goods stores, two drug-stores, two boot and shoe stores, two hardware-stores, one variety and five grocery stores, one hotel, one steam saw-mill, three warehouses, one steam-elevator, two blacksmith and three wagon shops, and one lumber and coal yard. A large steam flouring-mill is under contract to be built the present season. Several substantial business houses were constructed last year, and altogether the town bears an appearance of general prosperity and thrift. This

is a fine section of country for the production of corn, oats, barley, cattle, hogs, &c. The shipments of produce from this station during the year just closed were as follows: 38,940 bushels corn, 11,150 bushels wheat, 5,500 bushels oats, 6,500 lbs. wool, 803 horned cattle, and 6,050 hogs.

**Randolph**,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Bloomington, is a small station, but having a fine prospect of presently becoming a town. There are two grain warehouses, with elevators, close to the station; and also three corn-shellers, one hay-press, a mattress-factory, a grocery-store, and a few dwelling-houses. The shipments of produce by the railway in 1867 were confined mainly to corn and wheat.

***General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—***

This is one of the most desirable districts in the State for general farming purposes, and is thickly settled. The land is generally rolling, well watered with many small streams, and has an abundance of timber. The raising of hogs, cattle, horses, sheep, &c., is one of the principal branches of industry. The Company has now for sale about 2,000 acres, at prices ranging from \$10.00 to \$16.00 per acre, and a few tracts at lower prices. These lands are in DeWitt and McLean Counties.

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***(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 14.)***

**Bloomington**, the county seat of McLean County, 125 miles south-west of Chicago, is a city of 14,000 inhabitants. Two railroads connect here with the Illinois Central; to wit, the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad, and the St. Louis, Jacksonville and Chicago Railroad. Another railroad—the Danville, Urbana, Bloomington and Pekin Railroad—is in process of construction; and still another—the Lafayette, Bloomington and Mississippi Railroad—is now being surveyed. Some noteworthy improvements have been completed during the last year,—a Unitarian church, market-house, hermetical fruit-house, schoolhouse (costing \$30,000), flouring-mill, grain-elevator, amphitheatre, opera-house, etc. These are all large buildings, suited to the wants of a rapidly growing city. Extensive gas-works have been constructed, and a new steam fire-engine put in operation. The rebuilding of the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad shops (recently burned), will be speedily commenced. The new works will cover an area of thirteen acres. The work of macadamizing the principal streets has been undertaken, and will be continued during the present year. Wholesale houses of various kinds are established, and their increasing business with the villages along the lines of the several railways gives flattering prospects for the future of Bloomington. But, rapid as has been the growth of the city, it scarcely keeps pace with that of the surrounding country. Farmers from all parts of the Union are making their homes here, and all the wild land is being rapidly brought under cultivation. The business of stock-growing is largely increasing. The region is distinguished for the production of hay, which is of the very best quality; several hay-presses are employed. The city has some excellent public schools, and no expense is spared to make them equal to the best in the country; also two private boarding-schools for girls, and a Catholic seminary, under the charge of the Sisters of Charity. There are two daily newspapers, six hotels, three banks, two iron-foundries and machine-shops, five steam flouring-mills, soap and candle factory, woollen-mill, two planing-mills, two plow-factories, sash and blind factory, four wagon-factories, and stores and mechanics' shops of all descriptions, suited to the wants of the place. There were shipped from Bloomington last year, on the Illinois Central Railroad alone (and in addition to the very large shipments by

the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad), 297,710 bushels corn, 53,480 bushels wheat, 103,310 bushels oats, barley and rye, 4,595 bbls. flour, 133,100 lbs. wool, 8,325 hogs, 2,900 beef-cattle, and 2,025 sheep.

**Normal**, at the intersection of the Chicago and St. Louis, and the Illinois Central Railroads, is two miles north of Bloomington, with which city it is connected by a street railway and a plank walk. Here are located the State Normal University, and the Soldiers' Orphans' Home. The Normal University annually sends out a considerable number of graduates, amply qualified to take charge of the highest grade of public schools. At present it has (including the Model School attached) 850 pupils. Normal has about 2,000 inhabitants, exclusive of the pupils in the university. There are three churches (Baptist, Methodist, and Congregational), erected within the last three years, at a cost of \$50,000, and a district schoolhouse. At the crossing of the railroads a large and well-furnished hotel offers accommodation to all travellers. Normal has a city organization, and a clause in the charter forbids the sale of spirituous liquors within its corporate limits. A vote upon the liquor question, taken last year, was unanimously against the sale. Two newspapers are published, "The Index," and "The Gazette," and united with the University are two literary societies and two libraries. There are two hardware-stores, two groceries, a drug-store, book-store, dry-goods store, shoe-shop, blacksmith-shop, two wagon-shops, three carpenter-shops, two bakeries, livery-stable, and one flouring-mill. On every side stretch the nurseries, — the largest in the State, — and the farms used for the propagation of hedge-plants. These employ, at some seasons, as many as one thousand men. There are also two coal-mines in operation. More houses were built last year than ever before, and the business prospects of the town were never better than at the present time.

**Hudson**, 9 miles north of Bloomington, contains two churches (Methodist and Baptist), a schoolhouse, two grain-elevators, one of which is worked by steam-power, three stores, two blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, two shoemaker-shops, and one saddle and harness shop. The present population of the place is 300. This is in the centre of an old settled district, where the Company had but a small quantity of land, and nearly all of which has been sold. In the last year the shipments from this station were as follows: 93,210 bushels corn, 13,600 bushels wheat, 22,200 bushels oats, and 2,700 hogs.

#### ***General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—***

At an early day McLean County attracted the attention of settlers, from the superiority of the land, which is high and rolling, and with a great abundance of timber. It is thickly settled, and the larger portion of the land is well improved. The great bulk of the lands owned by the Company were sold soon after they were put into market. There are about 3,000 acres for sale at prices ranging from \$9.00 to \$15.00 per acre. The Company has also a few thousand acres of timbered land in Woodford and McLean Counties, west of Hudson, at about \$9.00 per acre. The land is among the bluffs of the Mackinaw, and is considerably broken.

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#### ***(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 15.)***

**Kappa**, 4 miles south of El Paso, has improved materially within the last year. Some twenty-five new farms have lately been put under cultivation in this vicinity. The town is within half a mile of the Mackinaw River. Population, about 350. The public school has 80 scholars. Kappa has three stores of general merchandise, a flouring-mill, sorghum-mill, saw-mill, grain warehouse, two blacksmith-shops, and two wagon-

shops. 31,500 bushels corn, 4,100 bushels oats and wheat, and 630 hogs were shipped from here in 1867.

**El Paso** is situated at the intersection of the main line of the Illinois Central, and the Toledo, Peru and Warsaw Railroads, 150 miles from Chicago. At the present time it contains 3,500 inhabitants, and is growing more rapidly than almost any other place on the line. About two hundred dwelling-houses, besides many stores, and other buildings, were erected during the last year, and in the same period the population has increased one-third. There are eight churches, — Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational, Roman Catholic, Campbellite, and Dutch Reformed. El Paso has two very fine schoolhouses, and another will be erected during the coming summer. About 600 pupils are in attendance upon the various schools. The town contains a large steam flouring-mill which was during the past year enlarged to double its former capacity, two agricultural-implement manufactories, a steam planing-mill, six grain warehouses (one with elevator worked by steam-power), one iron-foundry, two hotels, and about one hundred stores. The surrounding country is settling up very rapidly; it is considered the finest corn-land in the State of Illinois. A company is now prospecting for coal, and with good indications of success. During the last year the shipments by rail from this station included 10,680 bbls. flour, 19,520 bushels corn, 20,500 bushels oats, 4,665 bbls. pork, and upwards of 1,000 tons coal.

**Panola**, 21 miles north of Bloomington. Population of the village, 160. There are three grain warehouses here, two of them with horse-power elevators, four stores, hotel, hay-press, blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop, and a broom-factory. Fifteen dwelling-houses were built last year. Population of the township, 750. The oldest settlers were principally from Pennsylvania and Ohio; many of the new settlers are from the New-England States. A vein of coal,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  feet seam, recently discovered by boring, is now developing by the sinking of a shaft. There were shipped from this station last year, 120,070 bushels corn, 12,950 bushels wheat, 19,120 bushels oats, 15,400 lbs. wool, and many cattle.

**Minonk** is situated 29 miles north of Bloomington. Population, according to the last census, 1,500. The place is growing steadily, and already has six churches, — Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Christian, Roman Catholic, and Lutheran. Much interest is taken in education. A large and very fine schoolhouse has been built, sufficiently commodious for 600 scholars. A coal-shaft has been sunk, and will be operated this spring. Minonk has one small and three large grain warehouses, planing-mill, large grist-mill, two agricultural warehouses, five blacksmith and wagon-shops, three lumber-yards, two harness-shops, five dry-goods and grocery stores, three clothing-stores, two drug-stores, two grocery-stores, two boot and shoe stores, hardware-store, furniture-store, jewelry-store, one millinery-store, bakery, hotel, etc. This town is situated in the centre of one of the largest prairies in the State, and the surrounding country is becoming rapidly settled up by an enterprising set of people. Corn is the staple production. The shipments by railway last year were 329,510 bushels corn, 96,400 bushels oats, 37,950 bushels wheat, 6,800 bushels barley, 2,150 live hogs, and 987 dressed do.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.* — The land north and east of El Paso consists of a large prairie, being generally rolling, and the soil deep and rich. South and west of El Paso there is some timber. The Company has for sale in this district about 6,000 acres. Prices range from \$10.00, \$15.00, \$18.00, according to quality and location. This district has improved rapidly during the last two years. The lands are in Livingston, Woodford, and McLean Counties.

(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 16.)

**Rutland** has 700 inhabitants, principally from Vermont. Here are four churches, — Congregational, Methodist, Second-Advent, and Baptist; a schoolhouse, costing \$7,000; two flouring-mills, two grain-elevators, four dry-goods stores, one drug-store, two blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, and a hotel. The country in this vicinity has improved very rapidly during the last two years, and cultivated lands have advanced very largely in price. There has been a large immigration from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, &c. This station shipped, in 1867, 27,480 bushels of wheat, 197,220 bushels of corn, and 54,800 bushels of oats. Underlying the soil, white limestone is found, and mineral paint of good quality. An enterprising company is at work developing the coal-bed which geologists affirm exists at no considerable distance under the town.

**Wenona**, 20 miles south of La Salle, at the junction of the Ottawa, Oswego and Fox River Valley with the Illinois Central Railroad, has a population of 1,600; in 1860, 400. It is a prosperous town, and has a large trade with the surrounding country, which was early settled by people from New England and Ohio. This region produces large numbers of horses, cattle, and hogs. There are in this town five churches, — New-School Presbyterian, United Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic; a large schoolhouse, accommodating 600 children; an academy, and three district schools; one steam grain-elevator, and four horse-power elevators; a steam sash, door, and blind factory; three establishments for the sale of agricultural implements, doing a large business; two nurseries, eleven dry-goods and grocery stores, three hardware-stores, two drug-stores, four clothing-stores, four millinery-stores, two harness and saddle shops, five blacksmith-shops, four wagon-shops, three lumber-yards, carriage-factory, furniture-shop, jewelry-store, banking-house, printing-office, hotel, and brewery. In 1867 twenty-six new farms were opened in this vicinity, 100,000 fruit and ornamental trees planted, 23,000 lbs. of wool clipped, and 312,460 bushels corn, 46,890 bushels wheat, 100,750 bushels oats, 820 beef cattle, and 8,920 hogs sent forward to market from the station. The Ottawa, Oswego and Fox Valley Railroad was completed to the Vermilion coal-fields last fall, and coal is supplied to the town at low rates.

**Lostant**, 15 miles south of La Salle, is comparatively a new station, but doing a large and increasing grain business. A large portion of the buildings have been erected within the last two years. Here are two grain warehouses, with elevators; a steam flouring-mill, with capacity to grind 3,000 bushels wheat per week; one hotel, and another to be completed in the spring; two public halls, four dry-goods stores, two drug-stores, an agricultural-implement warehouse, two hardware-stores, a furniture-store, clothing-store, grocery-stores, harness-shop, wagon-shop, three blacksmith-shops, two brick-yards, and a lumber-yard. A church (Baptist) was finished last fall, and another (Baptist) will be built this spring. Good public schools and a high school are in successful operation. This is the best corn-producing district in the State, surrounded by a class of first-rate farmers, and prospering apace. The Vermilion coal-fields are within eight miles of the town. Few stations on the railway make larger shipments of grain. In the last year Lostant sent forward 171,900 bushels corn, 42,200 bushels oats, 8,460 bushels wheat, and a large amount of live and dressed hogs.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.**—

This is an open prairie country, with some timber on the banks of the streams on the west, north, and east. Coal is found in the immediate vicinity, and is furnished at low price. It is considered one of the choice districts of the State for corn, oats, hogs, cattle, &c. The great extent of prairie prevented its being settled as rapidly as some localities where the

land and soil were inferior; but during the last few years this district has made very rapid progress, and, at this time, few points in the State are better settled up and improved, or have a better class of farmers. Improved farms command as high prices as in almost any section of the State. The Company has now for sale about 3,000 acres, at from \$10.00 and \$13.00 to \$16.00 per acre, according to quality and location. These lands are in Marshall and Livingston Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 17.)

**Tonica.** This place is 9 miles south of La Salle, and contains 1,000 inhabitants. Here are three churches, — Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational; three schoolhouses, — a large fine one just completed; a large agricultural warehouse, one large grain warehouse, three dry-goods and grocery stores, one grocery-store, two hardware-stores, one tin and stove store, two drug-stores, one furniture-store, three boot and shoe manufactories, one saddle and harness manufactory, one sash and blind manufactory, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-manufactories, one flouring-mill, one large woollen-factory, just completed, two millinery-shops, one bakery, two lumber-yards, one hotel. Some attention is given to fruit-culture. There were shipped from this station, in 1867, 6,700 hogs, 617 beef cattle, 361 sheep, 100,000 lbs. dressed pork, 1,690 tons of coal, 326 car-loads of corn, 6 car-loads of wheat, 4 car-loads of rye, and 61 car-loads of oats, — altogether, 160,930 bushels grain.

**La Salle,** the county seat of La Salle County, 99 miles from Chicago, and 308½ miles north of Cairo, is at the head of navigation on the Illinois River, and the terminus of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. The Chicago and Rock-Island intersects the Illinois Central Railroad at this point. La Salle is thus most favorably situated for commercial purposes, and large quantities of produce are annually exported. Immense coal-fields underlie the city and country around, and five shafts are at present in operation, having capacity for mining and hoisting 600 tons per day. The annual product of the mines is 160,000 tons. Population about 7,000. Considering the mineral wealth of the region, the manufacturing and transportation facilities, the healthfulness of the situation (the mortality being not more than three-fourths of one per cent), and the enterprise of the people, La Salle bids fair to stand in the first rank of the manufacturing cities of the West. The total business of the place last year amounted to nearly eight millions of dollars. The city has four churches, — Baptist, Congregational, Methodist, and Roman Catholic, — and others are about to be erected; three public schoolhouses, with 950 scholars, and three private schools, with 260 scholars; a printing-office, publishing a weekly newspaper, the "La Salle County Press;" a glass-factory, having a capital of \$50,000; zinc-works, capital, \$300,000, and which produced last year 2,000,000 lbs. spelter, and in the last four months 943,000 lbs. sheet zinc; a National Bank, capital, \$50,000; two grain warehouses, one with steam-elevator of 75,000 bushels' capacity; brick-yards, making 1,500,000 bricks per year; one foundery, planing-mill, door and sash factory, three grist-mills, twelve blacksmith-shops, three furniture rooms and shops, five dry-goods stores, four clothing-stores, twenty-four groceries, three drug-stores, three hardware-stores, four shoe-stores, three tool-stores, three hotels, one carriage-factory, and three wagon-shops. The most of the produce of this region is sent to market by the canal, but during the last year the freight trains of the Illinois Central Railroad received from this station nearly 60,000 tons of coal, 4,100 bbls. flour, and 14,500 bushels of grain.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.**—

This is one of the oldest settled districts of the State, and is now thickly populated. The

Company had no lands here except a few forty-acre tracts, which have now been disposed of. The land had been sold by the Government, or was included in the grant to the canal, before the railroad was located.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 18.)

**Mendota.** The city of Mendota is situated in the north-western township of La Salle County, at the point where the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad intersects the Illinois Central Railroad. Distance from Chicago, 88 miles; from Dunleith, 131 miles. Its location in the midst of a rich grain-growing region, together with its superior railway facilities, are giving it a rapid growth and a large amount of business. The first house was built in 1853. Last year the number of buildings erected was 114. Coal is abundant and cheap, and manufacturing establishments are steadily increasing in number. The present population of Mendota is estimated at 6,000. It has twelve churches, — two Baptist, Methodist, Congregational, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Universalist, Episcopal, Catholic, two German, and one colored, — the most of them fine edifices. The public schools rank with the best in the State. The schoolhouses are six in number, — the united cost of two of them being \$70,000. The higher branches are taught in the Mendota College and the Wesleyan Seminary. Thirty school-teachers are employed in the city. A large amount of agricultural implements are annually sold here, and the facilities for shipment east, west, north, and south make it a desirable place for manufacturing purposes. Some large concerns are in operation; an organ-factory, turning out \$50,000 worth of cottage organs a year, two founderies and machine-shops, three flouring-mills, woollen-factory, pump-factory, plow-factory, vinegar-factory, brewery, four steam-elevators, one tannery, two marble-yards, five lumber-yards, five wagon-shops, six blacksmith-shops, five hotels, six restaurants, two bakeries, two banks, and about sixty stores of one description and another. There is also a public reading-room and a printing-office, from which is issued an enterprising newspaper, called "The Mendota Bulletin." During the last year there were planted in this section 50,000 fruit-trees and about 5,000 miles of hedge-plants. The wool-clip amounted to 37,567 lbs. The shipments for the year, on both railroads, were 300,000 bushels corn, 215,000 bushels wheat, 100,000 bushels oats, 75,000 bushels barley, 1,930,354 lbs. flax and grass seed, 1,356 beef cattle, 4,916 hogs, 1,969 sheep, and 499,758 lbs. dressed pork.

**Sublette,** 9 miles north of Mendota, has about 300 inhabitants. It is in a good agricultural region. The land is high, rolling prairie, and there is considerable timber within convenient distance. The place contains fifty-four dwelling-houses, three religious denominations, one church, a town-hall, two general stores, drug-store, grain warehouse, hotel, harness-shop, two carriage-shops, three blacksmith-shops, and three shoe-shops. It has a graded school with 120 pupils. During the last year five new farms were opened in the township, about 1,000 fruit-trees were planted, and 4,000 lbs. wool clipped. In the same period the shipments of produce from the station by railway were as follows: 33,900 bushels corn, 10,000 bushels wheat, 21,650 bushels oats, 3,600 bushels barley, 2,135 live hogs, 18,000 lbs. dressed hogs, 345 head of beef cattle.

**Amboy,** 104 miles west of Chicago, is situated in the midst of a rich prairie country, and is a flourishing business town. The population is not less than 3,000. There are four churches, — Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, and Roman-Catholic, — and a Union School, employing a male principal and five female assistants. About 300 pupils are in attendance. Other measures are in progress to secure still greater educational facilities.

There are two flouring-mills, one plow-manufactory, &c. There have been erected the past year six or eight new dwelling-houses, two large brick stores, a city engine-house and council rooms, and there are now building six brick stores, a large hall, and a stone church. There is one printing-office, issuing "The Amboy Times," a weekly newspaper. The lands adjacent to and east of Amboy are fine prairie, and well improved, settlement beginning here at an early day. The location of the town is desirable for those wishing to engage in mercantile or manufacturing business. There were shipped from this station, in 1867, 55,000 bushels grain, 9,800 lbs. wool, 886 beef cattle, and 2,645 hogs. The Company have extensive repair-shops located here, employing some two hundred and fifty hands, and capable of producing any description of work required in the construction or repair of the rolling stock.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

Except in the region west of Amboy (where there is considerable flat and wet land, but well adapted to stock-raising), this district consists of very high, rolling prairie-lands, with some timber interspersed in groves. The Company has for sale about 22,000 acres. West of Amboy, and over three miles from the road, the price is from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per acre; at other points from \$10.00 to \$16.00. It is now known that in the low lands adjoining Inlet Creek, and also in those farther west, are vast beds of peat, which it is thought will furnish fuel for all this region. The lands embraced in this map lie in La Salle and Lee Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 19.)

**Eldena**, 6 miles south of Dixon, is a new station, established to accommodate the produce shippers. Ten new farms were opened in this vicinity last year, and in the same time about two thousand fruit-trees were planted. The returns of the wool-clip foot up 4,000 lbs. There is a schoolhouse near the station, and also a general merchandise store. 17,000 bushels grain were shipped from this station in 1867.

**Dixon**, the county seat of Lee County, is a thriving city situated on Rock River, 100 miles west of Chicago, at the crossing of the Chicago and North-Western and the Illinois Central Railroads. The present population is about 4,500. The growth of the place within the past few years has been rapid, and many individuals of wealth and enterprise have been attracted hither. It now contains seven dry-goods stores, three furniture-stores, eleven groceries, three hardware-stores, three agricultural-implement warehouses, three flouring-mills, a feed-mill, a plow-factory, flax-factory, tile-factory, two foundries, seven blacksmith-shops, four wagon and carriage manufactories, three grain warehouses, the Lee County National Bank, six hotels, two printing-offices, publishing each a weekly paper, and five schools, with an attendance of about 550 scholars. The Episcopalians, Methodists, Baptists, Lutherans, Catholics, and Presbyterians have each effected organizations, and erected churches. The Baptists, Lutherans, and Catholics will build larger churches during the coming summer, their present ones being too small for their present worshippers. During the past year there have been built six large brick stores, and quite a number of frame ones, and also about forty dwelling-houses. Sixty new farms were opened in this vicinity in the year 1867, and during the same time 16,000 fruit-trees were planted, as well as some hundred miles of Osage-hedge fence. The Dixon Collegiate Institute is a fine brick building, located on an eminence commanding a beautiful view of the surrounding country, and having accommodations for 350 students. The celebrated "Grand-de-tour" plows are manufactured six miles from this place. The shipments on the Illinois Central Railway last year in-

clude 14,156 barrels flour, 38,170 bushels oats, 16,000 bushels other kinds of grain, and 28 700 pounds wool.

**Woosung.** 7 miles north of Dixon, and about 100 miles west of Chicago, is a prosperous little village of 300 inhabitants. The place has materially improved within the last two years. The dwelling-houses have doubled in number; a good schoolhouse, said to be one of the best in the county, has been built; and many new farms have been opened in the immediate vicinity of the town. The village has three grain warehouses, two grocery and dry-goods stores, two blacksmith-shops, carriage and wagon shop, hotel, grist-mill, two boot and shoe shops, two carpenter-shops, and two cooper-shops. The school has an average attendance of eighty scholars. There are three religious societies, — Baptist, Methodist, and United Brethren. The town is situated some 250 feet above the level of Rock River, and is considered very healthy. The settlers in the vicinity are prosperous, and in possession of sufficient means to improve their farms well. In the last year there were shipped from this station 30,760 bushels corn, 21,550 bushels oats, and 9,600 bushels wheat.

**Polo** is 97 miles west of Chicago, and 90 miles south of Dunleith. Population, 2,000. The surrounding country is exceedingly fertile, — a fine rolling prairie, every acre of which is susceptible of cultivation. The settlement dates back as far as 1835. During the past year there has been erected a large and commodious school building, constructed of blue lime-stone, four stories high, which will accommodate 500 pupils; the school has five departments. There is also the Polo Preparatory School, an academy in which pupils are fitted for any college. "The Ogle County Press," and "The School Visitor," are printed here, — the former a weekly, the latter a monthly sheet. Here are five church edifices; viz., Episcopal, Methodist, Congregational, United Brethren, and Roman Catholic. There are flourishing lodges of Masons, Odd Fellows, and Sons of Temperance. A steam flouring-mill, with four run of stones, and furnished with all the modern improvements, will be erected the coming spring. The business of the town gives employment to the following establishments: viz., eight general stores, four hardware-stores, ten groceries, two clothing-stores, two furniture-stores, seven grain warehouses, three hotels, three agricultural warehouses, a bank, plow-factory, cheese-factory, planing-mill, machine-shop, three wagon-shops, five blacksmith-shops, and two harness-shops. Many fruit and shade trees were planted last year. Enormous quantities of produce are forwarded to market from this station. In 1867 the shipments were 14,550 live hogs, and 151,700 pounds dressed pork, 1,225 beef cattle, 241,820 bushels oats, 103,020 bushels corn, 64,400 bushels barley, 86,510 bushels wheat, 41,160 bushels rye, and 12,800 pounds wool.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.*—

North of Rock River, and south of the river on the east side of the railroad, the land is high, rolling prairie, well watered, with an abundance of timber convenient, and is considered as about the best spring-wheat region in the State. South and west of Dixon the land is lower, but is good grass-land. Large numbers of cattle are fed in this vicinity. The Company's lands are nearly all sold. About 5,000 acres in small tracts are still for sale, at prices having a wide range, from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per acre. The lands are in Ogle, Carroll, Whiteside, and Lee Counties.

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#### (SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 20.)

**Haldane**, 5½ miles north of Polo, is a place from which considerable shipments of grain are made, — in the last year exceeding 100,000 bushels. There is a church here,

used jointly by the Methodists and United Brethren, a schoolhouse, three grain warehouses, two stores of general merchandise, two blacksmith-shops, harness-shop, wagon-shop, two carpenter-shops, etc. Three new farms were put under cultivation in this vicinity last spring, and at the same time many fruit-trees were extensively planted, and some miles of Osage-orange hedges set out.

**Forreston**, 80 miles from Dunleith, is a busy place of about 1,500 inhabitants, one third being Germans. Thirty dwelling-houses, a brick schoolhouse costing \$15,000, a grain warehouse, steam planing-mill, three large and several small stores, were built during the last year, and arrangements are in progress to erect a steam flouring-mill before the next harvest. It is remarked that there have been no failures of business houses in two years. The place contains six churches, — Methodist, Lutheran, United Brethren, Evangelical, St. John's, and Dutch Reformed; a graded school with classical department, five teachers and 300 scholars; and a private school of 40 scholars; two first-class hotels, six dry-goods stores, two hardware-stores, two drug-stores, five grocery-stores, two restaurants, one bakery, two millinery-stores, two large wagon and carriage shops, machine-shop, seven grain warehouses, and steam elevator. A printing-office has been put in operation, and a newspaper, "The Forreston Journal," established. During the last year, Forreston made shipments of grain as follows: 127,920 bushels wheat, 138,900 bushels oats, 56,150 bushels corn, 61,800 bushels barley, 18,980 bushels rye, also 7,545 hogs, and 369 beef cattle.

**Baileyville**, 7 miles south of Freeport, has forty dwelling-houses, and 250 inhabitants. A brick schoolhouse, two stories in height, was built last year. This is in a fine wheat-growing district; the land is high and rolling, and comparatively thickly settled. The inhabitants are principally New-England men, Canadians, and Germans. Apple-trees have been set out on almost every farm, and already enough apples are raised to supply the home demand. Good stone for building purposes is found in this neighborhood. There is a Methodist church in the village, and other sects, Lutheran, German Reformed, and Second Adventists, have stated preaching. The wool-clip is set down at 6,000 pounds. There are two general stores, one grocery, two shoe-shops, three blacksmith-shops, one wagon-shop, two grain warehouses. The shipments of produce in 1867 were as follows: 23,900 bushels corn, 5,330 bushels oats, 57,200 bushels barley, 19,580 bushels wheat, and 9,650 bushels rye.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

This is a fine wheat and oat growing district, and was settled at an early day. The land is generally of the best quality, well watered, and with an abundance of timber on the Rock River and its numerous tributaries and other smaller streams. The Company had considerable prairie-land in this locality, the bulk of which was sold soon after it was put into market. The class of farmers, and the character of improvements, are better in this section of country than in some other portions of the State, and land commands as high prices as in any other district. The Company has yet for sale about 7,000 acres (partially timbered and broken land), ten to fifteen miles west of Baileyville, at about \$9.00 to \$12.00 per acre. The few tracts of prairie-land yet remaining are held at much higher prices. These lands are in Carroll, Ogle, and Stephenson Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 21.)

**Freeport**, 120 miles from Chicago, and 67 from Dunleith, is one of the most thriving business towns in the north-west, and has a large trade with all the surrounding coun-

try. The Galena and Chicago Union, and the Racine and Mississippi Railroads connect here with the Illinois Central Railroad, thus affording superior railway facilities. The town contains two railroad machine-shops, three flouring-mills, two planing-mills, three fan-mill factories, seven carriage and wagon factories, two founderies, pump-factory, woolen-mill, one pork-packing establishment, reaper-factory, marble-works, tannery, fifteen blacksmith-shops, three harness-shops, twenty-one dry-goods stores, six drug-stores, nine clothing-stores, five jewelry-stores, three fancy-goods stores, eight agricultural-implement stores, twenty-six groceries, four furniture-stores, four hardware-stores, five hat-stores, three leather-stores, ten shoe-stores, six livery-stables, four lumber-yards, six millinery-stores, two Yankee-notion stores, six weekly newspapers, thirteen hotels, three banks, fourteen churches, sixteen lawyers, and thirteen doctors. There are five public school-houses, fifteen schools, twenty-one teachers, and 1,450 scholars in attendance. The following figures convey some idea of the rapid growth of the city: There were built, in the year 1867, six churches (costing \$100,000), thirty stores (\$240,000), four livery-stables (\$40,000), two schoolhouses (\$40,000), five hundred dwelling-houses (\$750,000); and, in the same time, three miles of streets were macadamized, at an outlay of \$60,000. The city also purchased a new steam fire-engine which, with the fixtures, cost \$15,000. The surrounding country is rolling prairie, well watered, and well timbered. Many new farms were opened last year; and all the vacant land in the vicinity is being rapidly brought under cultivation. It is estimated that 40,000 sheep were sheared last year in the section tributary to Freeport, — the fleeces weighing 150,000 lbs.

**Eleroy**, 8 miles west of Freeport, is a place of 200 inhabitants, and has a large granary, two variety-stores, a blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop, and a hotel. The town contains three district-schools, a German school, and a brick schoolhouse, in which there is also preaching on the Sabbath, by Baptists and Methodists. It is proposed to build a Methodist church the present season. Two miles west of the village there are two churches (Roman Catholic and Evangelical German). There are two extensive stone-quarries, and several lime-kilns near the village. A stock-yard has been recently fitted up, and large shipments of cattle are made from here. The land in this vicinity is nearly all under fence. The shipments of grain from this station last year equalled 56,000 bushels.

**Lena**, 12½ miles north-west of Freeport, contains about 250 houses, and 1,600 inhabitants. The farms in this neighborhood are well improved, and have good houses, barns, and fences. A large grove of timber adjoins the village. Thirty-five buildings were erected last year. There are five churches, and eight religious societies; to wit, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, German Methodist, Baptist, Roman Catholic, Free Methodist, and German Lutheran. A large and wealthy society of German Baptists have a meeting-house two miles from the station. There are three schoolhouses, which are much too small for the requirements, and the basements of two churches are used for schools. Schools are graded. The land has been purchased for a new schoolhouse, which will be finished in the course of another year. Lena is, next to Freeport, the most important town in Stephenson County, and has about thirty stores, a hotel, five grain warehouses, a steam flouring-mill, foundery, and machine-shop, barrel-factory, corn-sheller factory, planing-mill, and numerous mechanics' shops. Fruit and ornamental trees have been extensively planted. There is a fine public hall and lecture-room, capable of seating 500 people. A rich lead-mine has been opened in Stockton, ten miles from this place, which will add something to the trade of the town, — Lena being the nearest railway station. Lead in small quantities is found in the immediate neighborhood. The shipments from this station in 1867 included 14,900 hogs, 1,032 beef-cattle, 301,750 bushels oats, 57,190 bushels wheat, 24,560 bushels rye, 30,840 bushels corn, and 11,600 bushels barley.

**Nora**, 20 miles north-west of Freeport, contains 900 inhabitants, and has two churches (Congregational and Methodist); two schools, — one of them graded, — with an average attendance of 200 scholars; two grain warehouses, — one with horse-power elevator; two hotels, two stores, two blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, tannery, lumber-yard, sorghum-mill. This is a fine farming country, well watered, and with plenty of timber. The wool-clip of this vicinity, last year, amounted to 12,000 pounds. Four new farms were opened. Improved farms command a large price. This station shipped in 1867 14,280 bushels wheat, 74,620 bushels oats, 13,600 bushels barley, 1,780 live hogs, 8,770 lbs. butter, 3,360 bushels flax-seed, and 152 beef-cattle.

**Warren.** The Mineral-Point Railroad joins the Illinois Central at this place, 43 miles from Dunleith, and 144 from Chicago. Warren has a population of 2,000, and is a busy and prosperous town. There are four churches in the place, — a Baptist, a Methodist, a Presbyterian, and a Lutheran, — and the Episcopalians are moving to erect a church for their denomination. Excellent schools are established, — both public and private, — with an attendance of upwards of 500 pupils. Within the past year twelve handsome dwellings and stores have been erected, and property generally improved throughout the town. The stores — thirty in number — do a large trade with the neighboring country. There are a number of grain warehouses in the place; also an extensive planing-mill; a bank (Farmers' National), with a capital of \$50,000; a printing-office, from which is issued "The Warren Sentinel;" two hotels, — the Burnett House, and the Warren Hotel; two establishments for the sale of agricultural implements; a grain elevator; a plow and wagon factory; and numerous mechanics' shops. The yearly fairs of the counties of Jo Daviess, Fayette, and Stephenson, are held on the Warren Fair Ground. Two lead-veins were opened during the last year, — one within half a mile, and one two miles from town. The building of several large business-blocks will be commenced in the spring. An idea of the fertility of the country contributory to Warren will be obtained from the shipments by railway from this station last year, which were as follows: 251,540 bushels wheat, 681,150 bushels oats, 65,000 bushels barley, 36,590 bushels corn, 7,860 bushels rye, 3,000 bbls. flour, 26,145 live hogs, 489,000 lbs. dressed pork, 3,825 beef-cattle, 87,600 lbs. hides, 13,800 lbs. wool, and 3,101,390 lbs. lead.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.* —

This is an old settled district, — fine lands, and plenty of water and timber. The Company never owned much land here: a few pieces are still for sale, at prices ranging from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per acre. The plate embraces portions of Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties.

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#### *(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 22.)*

**Apple River**, 21 miles north-east of Galena, is an industrious town of 550 inhabitants. Lead abounds, and is profitably mined in all this region. The village contains 110 dwelling-houses, three churches (Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic), two schools, eleven stores, one hotel, three blacksmith-shops, one tailor and clothier, two wagon-shops, two carpenter-shops, one furniture-shop, one agricultural-warehouse, two grain warehouses, one lumber-yard, three boot and shoe shops, and one watch and jewelry shop. Four new farms were opened last year. The wool-clip of the last season was 12,000 lbs. A cheese-factory is in successful operation here. The principal shipments from this station last year were 264,470 bushels oats, 29,130 bushels wheat, 721,900 lbs. lead, 68,180 lbs. butter, 4,536 hogs.

**Scales Mound**, 13 miles north-east of Galena, has a population of about 500. Lead-mining is an important interest here; the export of this mineral in 1867 amounting to 864,000 lbs. In the same period 58,750 bushels of oats, 1,055 hogs, 399 beef-cattle, and 155,200 lbs. dressed pork were sent to market from the farms in this neighborhood. There are in the town two churches, two schools, a grain warehouse, and three stores.

**Council Hill** Station, 7 miles east of Galena, is within the lead region, and some large lodes of mineral are being worked in the neighborhood. Population, 250. Here are two hotels, one woollen-factory, two grain-houses, two stores, one Methodist church, and a school of eighty pupils. The exports of lead from this station in 1867 amounted to 2,404,900 lbs.; of zinc ore, 710 tons; grain, 16,000 bushels.

**Galena**, the shire-town of Jo Daviess County, is pleasantly situated on the Galena River, five miles from its confluence with the Mississippi. Distance from Chicago, 171 miles; from Dunleith, 16½ miles. It was laid out in 1836, and incorporated in 1839, and has now a population of 11,000. Being the emporium of the lead region, it has a large trade with all the country round about. Galena contains thirteen churches,—four Roman Catholic, three Methodist, two Presbyterian; and Unitarian, Episcopalian, Swedish, and Congregational, one each. There are eleven public schools in the place, educating seventeen hundred and fifty children. The public buildings—court-house, post-office, custom-house, and marine-hospital—are all sightly edifices. Among the business features of the place may be enumerated three flouring-mills, an iron-foundry, two plow-factories, three packing-houses, three planing-mills, eight breweries, three distilleries, six hotels, two banks, fourteen grain warehouses, two sash, blind, and door factories, a large woollen-mill, an extensive boot and shoe factory with steam power, a vinegar-factory, three nurseries, and one hundred and eleven stores. One daily and two weekly newspapers are published here; and there are two printing-offices exclusively devoted to job-work. The shipments of the railroad in 1867 include 5,350,900 lbs. lead, 1,837,200 lbs. dressed pork, 23,400 lbs. wool, 5,554 bbls. pork, 484,425 bushels oats, 21,360 bushels wheat, and 17,600 bushels barley.

**Dunleith** (an incorporated city of 1,800 inhabitants) is situated on the east bank of the Mississippi River, in the extreme north-western part of the State, and is the terminus of the Illinois Central Railroad in that direction. It is a place of great commercial importance, and receives, for transshipment to Chicago and other markets, vast stores of the agricultural and mineral productions of Iowa and Minnesota. Distance from Chicago, 188 miles. Steamers ply regularly between Dunleith and St. Paul and the intermediate towns on the Upper Mississippi. A ferry connects the station with Dubuque, on the opposite side of the river; and a bridge, to join the Illinois Central and the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroads, has been commenced, and will be completed with all possible despatch. The freight sent forward from Dunleith in 1867, over the Illinois Central Railroad, amounted to 195,000 tons, and included 1,930,680 bushels of wheat, 146,053 barrels of flour, 102,290 bushels of oats, 6,500 tons of dressed pork, 30,447 live hogs, 4,766 cattle, and 400 tons of lead. In the extent of its forwarding business, Dunleith, of all the stations on the line of the Illinois Central Railroad, ranks next to Chicago. The railroad property has been much improved within the last three years, and real estate throughout the town has steadily appreciated in value. There is an iron-foundry here, also an agricultural-implement factory, a planing-mill, six hotels, twenty-three stores, a grain elevator worked by steam-power, three grain warehouses, and three railroad warehouses. Lead mining is an important interest here. Two "leads" have been struck, and are now worked immediately in the town.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

THE GALENA LEAD MINES are in an uneven country, well watered and fairly wooded. The climate is remarkably healthy; the streams are pure, and run over rocky beds; and although the soil is not so deep and fertile as some portions of the interior of Illinois, yet, considering its advantages in other respects, this is one of the finest farming localities of the West. The lead district is about forty miles long by thirty wide, and probably no mining region in the world, of the same extent, has produced so much in proportion to the capital invested. New and extensive leads have been opened this year; and, as labor becomes more abundant, the yield will be proportionally increased. Lead is often found upon fine farming-lands; and many of the miners are the owners of farms, and carry on the two branches of business with equal success. The company has about 16,000 acres of land for sale, at from \$7.00 to \$16.00 per acre, all in Jo Daviess County. Attention has lately been drawn to the mineral lands in the vicinity of Apple River, from which considerable lead is now being raised. A few miles north, near Shellburg, Wis., large quantities of lead are being mined. All this county enhances in value as its mineral resources are developed.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE A.)

**Chicago.** The annals of Chicago are involved in no obscurity, for the witnesses of its rise and marvellous progress are yet young men. In 1831 it contained twelve families; in 1840, the year in which it first figures in the census-tables, the inhabitants numbered 4,853; in 1850, 29,963; in 1860, 110,973; and now, in 1868, the population is not less than 220,000. The assessed valuation of the real and personal property is \$192,249,644. During the last year, seven thousand buildings were constructed, at an estimated cost of \$8,500,000. Included in this number are five schoolhouses and six churches, and many business-blocks and dwelling-houses of marble and brick. The lake tunnel was finished and new water-works completed, by which the city can be supplied with eighteen million gallons of pure water per day. A tunnel under the river, sufficiently wide for a double roadway, has been commenced, and will be pushed forward as speedily as the nature of the work will permit. Fifteen miles of sewers were laid, and twenty-nine miles of streets and alleys planked, paved, or macadamized; twenty-three miles of water-pipes were laid down, and thirty-one miles of sidewalks constructed. Since the organization of the city, more than \$10,000,000 have been expended upon the streets. It is difficult, in the short space to which this notice must be confined, to properly set forth the commercial importance of Chicago; but a few statistics, gathered from the trade-returns of 1867, will serve to exhibit something of the magnitude of the business transacted here. Of bread-stuffs there were received sixty million bushels, the shipments eastward exceeding fifty-one million bushels. The aggregate receipts of live stock were larger than ever before, and included 1,996,000 hogs, and 329,000 beeves; of the former 758,000, and of the latter 203,000, were sent to Eastern markets. 850,000 hogs and 50,000 beeves were slaughtered and packed for export. The lumber-trade has assumed gigantic proportions; the receipts for the year being 851,000,000 feet of lumber, 431,000,000 shingles, and 143,000,000 laths. The trade in wool increases year by year; last year the receipts were 9,523,000 lbs., and the shipments 10,546,000 lbs. The exports of lard reached 17,000 tons.

The several grain-elevators have a storage capacity of 10,000,000 bushels, and are among the wonders of the city. The Union Stock Yards, in the fitting-up of which upwards of \$1,000,000 were expended, are arranged to receive as many as one hundred thousand head of beef cattle, hogs, and sheep. There are eleven miles of dockage, in the improve-

ment of which \$1,200,000 have been expended. The arrivals of vessels engaged in lake navigation number 12,230. The wholesale trade in dry-goods last year reached \$30,000,000; in groceries, \$35,000,000; in hardware, \$20,000,000; boots and shoes, \$15,000,000; clothing, \$10,000,000. The estimated commercial business is placed at \$300,000,000. The internal revenue collections for the year amount to nearly four million dollars; of which \$1,736,000 were collected upon manufactures, \$300,000 from railroads, and \$1,120,000 upon incomes. The banks and insurance-companies have an aggregate capital of \$12,000,000. Chicago has upwards of one hundred churches, representing almost every shade of religious faith; and numerous hospitals and asylums for the sick and blind and poor. The public schools are acknowledged upon all hands to be in every respect equal to the best in the country; while the University and other seminaries of learning are in no way behind similar institutions in the older cities. And finally, the city is growing as rapidly now as at any period in its history; nor is it likely to yield the position which has been accorded to it as the first of the great interior cities of the United States.

**Hyde Park** contains many sightly houses; and numbers of the business men of Chicago reside here, attracted by the salubrity of the place, the beauty of the situation, and the intelligent society which abounds. In the summer season it is much resorted to as a bathing-place. The distance from the central station of Chicago to Hyde Park is seven miles, and trains are run to and fro almost hourly. There is an excellent public school, a private seminary for girls, a church, and a hotel; and, in the vicinity of the latter, there are some fine walks and pleasant drives.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 23.)

**Calumet**, 14 miles south of Chicago, is at the junction of the Michigan Central with the Illinois Central Railroad. The land in this vicinity is low and wet, and the farms are small, and mainly devoted to grass, — Chicago being a profitable market for the hay produced in this neighborhood. There is also something done in the way of market-gardening.

**Thornton**, 23½ miles south of Chicago, has a population of 350; old Thornton, three miles east, has 250 inhabitants. The land in this vicinity is good for grass, vegetables, dairy farming, &c. North-east of Thornton there is a Dutch settlement, which is in a very prosperous condition. Near to this town some of the wealthy citizens of Chicago have large and well-improved farms, raising oats, spring wheat, hay, vegetables, &c. The Chicago and Great-Eastern Railroad crosses the Illinois Central at the Calumet River, six miles north of Thornton. In the village at the station there are two churches (Presbyterian and German), two schools (English and German), three stores of general merchandise, five hotels, one flouring-mill, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, four shoe-shops, one harness-shop, one agricultural-implement factory, one hay-press, and one cheese-factory. Some attention has been given to fruit, and 5,000 fruit-trees were planted last year. Wool-growing is attracting some attention, the clip for 1867 amounting to 2,000 lbs. 580 tons hay were sent to market by the railway, together with 32,500 lbs. dressed pork, and about 10,000 bushels grain.

**Matteson**. The Jolliet Cut-off crosses the Illinois Central Railroad at Matteson. This town has a population of 1,500, and from its location will necessarily become a place of considerable importance. Most of the land in the neighborhood has been taken up,

and is now under good cultivation. Matteson has four churches (three Lutheran and one Roman-Catholic) ; six public and four private schools, with an attendance of 550 children ; four hotels, three stores of general merchandise, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, one sorghum-mill, one grain-elevator, worked by steam, and one steam flouring-mill and grain-dryer. The shipments from Matteson in 1867 were 23,550 bushels oats, 7,600 bushels corn, 1,148 bbls. flour, and upwards of 1,000 sheep and hogs.

**Richton** Station is  $28\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Chicago. The land in the neighborhood is very rich, and with proper drainage is made extremely productive. The village is only one mile from Matteson, and has a population of 200, a Roman-Catholic and a Lutheran church, a school of forty pupils, a hotel, and a store. This station sent forward to market, in 1867, 13,000 bushels of wheat, corn, and barley, and 60,100 bushels of oats.

***General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—***

A portion of the land in this section is low ; but most of it is susceptible of drainage. The soil is very rich ; and, owing to the nearness to Chicago, all lands that are tillable are very valuable for pasturage, dairy-farms, vegetable-gardens, &c. All the dry lands held by the Company have been sold. It yet holds for sale about 5,000 acres of low lands near Calumet. The expenditure of capital in draining some of the lands in this district would, it is believed, be a profitable investment. This plate embraces portions of Cook and Will Counties.

***(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 24.)***

**Monroe**, 34 miles from Chicago, is the market-town for a wide scope of country. The facilities for handling grain, and the keen competition among the buyers of produce, have resulted in doubling the business of the place within the last two years. The village at the station has 250 houses and 1,500 inhabitants ; the township has a population of about 3,000. In the township several new farms have been recently opened, and two cheese-factories have been established, which make into cheese the milk of three hundred cows. The wool-clip last year weighed 10,000 lbs. About 8,000 fruit-trees were planted during the year. This is the highest point on the railroad between Chicago and Cairo, being on the line of the summit which separates the waters flowing to the Great Lakes from those flowing to the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. There are a number of English and many German settlers in this vicinity. In the village there are four churches, — Congregational, Methodist, Roman-Catholic, and German-Evangelical, — three of which were erected last year ; one steam flouring-mill, three grain-elevators, four dry-goods stores, two grocery-stores, one drug-store, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, two merchant tailors, four boot and shoe factories, three hotels, and a printing-office. The building of an academy was completed last year, and there are now ample means for the education of the youth of the town and country adjacent. The shipments of produce from Monroe for the year 1867 include 298,400 bushels oats, 70,950 bushels corn, 29,200 bushels wheat, 27,000 bushels barley, 5,000 bushels grass-seed, 25,000 bushels flax-seed, 1,355 live hogs, and 252,200 lbs. dressed hogs, and 213 beef cattle.

**Peotone**, 40 miles south of Chicago, has 1,000 inhabitants (in the township), and contains two churches (Methodist and Evangelical), four stores, two hotels, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, a furniture-shop, pump-factory, grain-elevator, and grain warehouse. Altogether in the township there are seven schoolhouses, — the one in the

village having a regular attendance of forty pupils. The fine quality of the soil is attracting settlers, and the land is rapidly being brought under cultivation. There are several large and well-improved farms in the neighborhood, and sheep-raising is a rapidly-increasing branch of industry. During the last year, fifteen new farms were opened, and the preparations are going forward to enclose as many more this spring. Three thousand fruit-trees were set out last season; wool-clip, 4,000 lbs. Within the same period upwards of one and a half million feet of lumber were brought to the place, all of which have been used up in improvements within a range of ten miles from the station. The staple shipments for the year were 71,250 bushels corn, 27,000 bushels wheat, 50,700 bushels oats, 543 head of beef cattle, 1,039 hogs, 100 tons hay, and 900 bushels grass-seed.

**Manteno**, 46½ miles from Chicago. Population of the township, 1,600; of the village at the station, 800. The land is superior for grain, as well as stock-raising, and has an enhanced value on account of its proximity to the Chicago market. There are three churches in the place, — Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman-Catholic, — and three schools (one of them a select school), attended by 200 scholars. At the station are three grain-elevators, one worked by steam and two by horse-power, and a grist-mill. It is a good trading-point, and has six stores, two hotels, a lumber-yard, and blacksmiths, wagon-wrights, carpenters, and other mechanics. There is a stone quarry within a quarter of a mile of the station. A considerable portion of the settlers south-east of Manteno are French Canadians. This station exported, in 1867, 27,900 bushels of wheat, 257,050 bushels of corn, 136,750 bushels of oats, 7,600 bushels of barley, 18,000 pounds of dressed pork, 959 head of cattle, and 4,912 live hogs.

**General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.**—The land in this district is prairie, with very little timber: the greater part of it is rolling, and the soil rich. Owing to its nearness to Chicago, the lands in this vicinity are very desirable for the raising of vegetables, &c., and for dairy farming. Large quantities of spring wheat, oats, barley, &c., are raised annually, as well as many cattle, hogs, and sheep. A large portion of the live stock is driven to the Chicago market on foot. Almost all the Company's lands have been sold; a few small tracts, amounting to about 1,500 acres, still remain unsold; price from \$13.00 to \$18.00 per acre. These lands are in Will and Kankakee Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 25.)

**Kankakee**, the county seat of Kankakee County, situated on the north bank of the Kankakee River, 56 miles from Chicago, has grown up from a forest since the building of the railroad, and now contains a population of 6,000. It has one woollen-factory, one flouring-mill, capable of grinding 1,500 bushels of wheat per day, one linseed-oil mill, one foundry and machine-shop, three manufactories of farming implements, three carriage and wagon shops, two tanneries, and three perpetual burning lime-kilns. The inexhaustible quarries of the finest quality of limestone are not to be overlooked in counting the wealth of Kankakee, furnishing as they do stone and lime for the building purposes of the city and for exportation. The river has a width of 500 feet, with a dam making a fall of ten feet, and producing a water-power unsurpassed in Illinois. At present this power is used only to a limited extent, but no point in the State offers greater inducements for the establishment of almost every kind of factory. The Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians have each two churches, — the Methodists have during the last year erected a handsome stone church,

at a cost exceeding \$40,000, — and the Congregationalists, Lutherans, Roman Catholics, and Episcopalians one each. The schools rank with the best in the Union. There are four select schools of high grade; the Sisters of Mercy have lately erected a very large building for school purposes; the Kankakee Seminary, a chartered institution; the High School, with three teachers and a superintendent; and the Graded School, with twelve teachers and a superintendent. The attendance of pupils is fully 1,000. The place is having a steady increase of population and business. During the past season one hundred buildings were erected, many of them fine and costly structures, and the coming season promises to be an equally busy one in the building line. The stores of one kind and another number about forty. There are two private banks, four hotels, five lumber-yards, six grain warehouses, two bakeries, and two printing-offices, issuing "The Kankakee Gazette" and "The Kankakee Journal." The Kankakee and the Iroquois Rivers and their tributaries afford a copious supply of water to the county, and there is a great plenty of wood and coal, — the latter abounding in the western part of the county, where several shafts have already been opened and are being successfully worked. During the last year this station sent to the Chicago market 455,990 bushels corn, 210,200 bushels oats, 44,000 bushels wheat, barley, and rye, 1,345 beef-cattle, 3,750 live hogs, 152,800 pounds dressed pork, 16,200 pounds wool, 8,480 barrels flour, and 6,399 bushels potatoes.

**Chebanse.** This station is 64½ miles south of Chicago. The country hereabouts is watered by the Iroquois, and is well adapted to grazing. The population and business of the town have doubled in the last three years. At this time the township has a population of 2,000, and the village about 600. Two churches, Methodist and Roman Catholic, were erected last year; also an elevator with all the new improvements. The hay-press has been worked day and night, and has prepared for shipment about 5,000 tons of hay. Here are four general supply stores, two groceries, one drug-store, one agricultural warehouse, one hardware-store, two hotels, two grain warehouses, two lumber-yards, two coal-yards, one boot and shoe factory, two wagon-shops, three blacksmith-shops, a photographer, goldsmith, etc. In the last year this station sent forward to market 86,730 bushels corn, 29,280 bushels oats, 14,000 bushels wheat and barley, 5,900 pounds wool, 1,370 tons hay, 1,452 hogs, 1,575 sheep, and 930 beef-cattle.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

This land is mostly prairie, but there is an abundance of timber for all purposes. East and south-east of Kankakee, where a large portion of the farmers are French Canadians, the soil on a portion of the land is not of superior quality, being somewhat sandy, and a part is covered with small timber. West of the railroad, the land is rich, and well adapted to grain, hay, &c. The raising of cattle and hogs has been the principal business in this district, but much attention is now being given to sheep-raising, large numbers of which have been brought in the past year by substantial settlers from Iowa and Wisconsin. It is the opinion of those well informed that no part of Illinois offers more advantages for keeping stock. There is a broad range for pasturage on unoccupied lands, and the grass is of superior quality. Mr. Lemuel Milk, who has a farm of 5,364 acres seven miles south-west of Chebanse, started in 1850 with a half interest in 160 acres of land, 2,900 sheep, 70 cattle, 20 hogs, 10 horses, and farming implements. He has now about 2,500 acres in timothy, 1,000 acres in cultivation, and 40 acres in orchard, keeps about 3,000 sheep, winters 300 to 400 cattle, and grazes 500 to 1,500 head. Owing to the very large corn-crop in 1864, he was enabled to winter 2,000 cattle and 1,200 hogs. The Company has now for sale 26,000 acres, a large portion of the land at from \$7.00 to \$10.00 per acre, — some parcels nearer the road, and in the more desirable locations, at from \$11.00 to \$14.00 per acre. These lands are in Kankakee and Iroquois Counties.

(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 26.)

**Clifton**, 69 miles south of Chicago, has 700 inhabitants, and is surrounded with the best of grazing and corn lands. Artesian water is obtained here at the depth of eighty to one hundred feet, and thus at small expense the settler is supplied with an abundance of pure water. There are two churches in this place, — Congregational and Roman Catholic. The Methodists have regular meetings in the schoolhouse, and purpose building a church the coming year. The village also contains three schools, three grain warehouses, two hotels, two lumber-yards, two coal-yards, three dry-goods stores, two drug-stores, four boot and shoe shops, two blacksmith-shops, one wagon-shop, one harness-shop, one hardware and tin shop, one millinery-store, one watch and clock store, and a number of sorghum-mills and hay-presses. Among the projects for the year are the building of a flouring and grist mill, a high schoolhouse, and a cheese-factory. The settlers at this point are made up largely of the best class of New-England people. The society in the town is good, and more pains have been taken than is usual in the small towns to make the place attractive by planting shade-trees, grading streets, and building substantial and neat dwelling-houses, barns, etc. The shipments by railway from this station last year were as follows: 94,770 bushels corn, 16,750 bushels oats, 5,000 bushels rye and barley, 713 hogs, and 516 beef-cattle.

**Ashkum**, 73 miles south of Chicago, has 250 inhabitants: the township has a population of 1,700. As many as thirty new farms will be enclosed the coming spring. During the last season five thousand fruit-trees and one hundred thousand Osage-orange plants, for fencing, were set out. The produce of the last sheep-shearing was 11,450 pounds wool. At the station village there are two stores; one large grain warehouse; one hay-press, preparing for market ten tons of hay per day, for six months of the year; one flouring-mill; one lumber-yard; one hotel; two blacksmith-shops; two wagon-shops; one cabinet-shop. The school has one hundred pupils. There are indications of coal in the neighborhood. The principal shipments last year were 1,180 tons hay, 13,000 bushels grain, 420 beef-cattle, and 480 hogs.

**Danforth**, 77½ miles from Chicago, was established as a station in 1864. Within the last year eighty new farms, covering an area of 6,000 acres, have been put under cultivation in the vicinity of this station. The receipts of lumber in the last season were upwards of 1,000,000 feet. The water for stock and for other purposes is mainly supplied by Artesian wells. The village at the station has forty dwelling-houses and 150 inhabitants, a good school with an average attendance of fifty pupils, steam planing-mill, general store, hay-press, wagon-shop, blacksmith-shop, hotel, and cabinet-shop. A flouring-mill will be put in operation the coming season. With the occupation of the farming lands, the trade of the village must increase. There is a good opening here for enterprising mechanics. The Company has some very desirable tracts of land, within a few miles of the station.

**Gilman**, 81 miles south of Chicago, at the intersection of the Illinois Central and the Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw Railroads, is a place of nearly 1,000 inhabitants. It exhibits a steady increase, — the population and the business of the town having doubled in the last three years. Forty dwelling-houses and a dozen stores and offices were built last year; and arrangements have been completed for the erection, during the coming season, of a large brick church of the Christian denomination, a first-class flouring-mill, a large grain warehouse, and many private houses. The schoolhouse here is second to none in the State. The Presbyterians erected a church about three years ago. In this village there are three hotels, four dry-goods stores, four groceries, two drug-stores, hardware-store, furniture-

store, boot and shoe store, two blacksmith-shops, wagon-shop, harness-shop, two lumber-yards, two sash and door factories, and one grain warehouse. A nursery having some thousands of trees will be largely extended this spring. The surrounding country is rapidly improving, and merchants and mechanics with trading capital find here a good opening. This is regarded as one of the best grazing districts in the State.

**Onarga**, 85 miles south of Chicago, has a population of 1,500, and is steadily increasing in numbers and in business. The prairie abounds in springs of clear water, and, for this and other reasons, this section of country is good for grazing and stock-raising. The increase of population during the last year has been about 800 in the township, and upwards of one hundred new farms have been opened. Artesian wells are bored here at a cost of from \$35 to \$250. Considerable attention is paid to fruit-culture; three thousand bushels of strawberries and blackberries were shipped from Onarga last season. A large proportion of the settlers are from New England. The religious and educational privileges are noteworthy: five churches, — Presbyterian, Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, and Methodist; the Onarga Institute, having nearly 100 students; the Grand Prairie Seminary, having in the last year 20 teachers and 248 students: a large public school-house has just been completed at a cost of \$6,000. There is also a horticultural society, a public library, and societies of Masons, Odd Fellows, and Good Templars. About twenty-five dwelling-houses were erected last year. Within a few miles of the town there is a large cheese-factory in operation, and also a nursery for the supply of choice fruit-trees and shrubbery. In the village we find twenty-five stores; a printing-office, publishing "The Grand Prairie Review;" and blacksmiths, carpenters, photographers, lawyers, and doctors, to meet the wants of the people. 35,760 bushels corn, and 6,000 bushels other grain, 3,400 pounds wool, 902 beef-cattle, 2,506 hogs, and 750 sheep were sent to market from this station last year.

***General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.***—

The land is generally prairie, with some timber on the Iroquois River and branches, on the east. It is not generally high and rolling, but, over ten miles from the road on the west, the land is much higher, and of very fine quality. The soil, except east of the Iroquois River, is very deep and rich; a considerable portion of the land, however, west and south-west of Ashkum, requiring more or less drainage to make it reliable for grain in all seasons. No better wild or tame grass lands are found at any point on the line, and this location is recommended to those who wish to establish stock farms. The Messrs. Danforth are doing considerable towards draining the low lands in their vicinity; and, as the country is settled up, a great deal is done by the different farmers to this end. The soil is deeper and richer than in almost any other locality. It is not to be understood that all the land is low; a large portion is fine tillable land, and there are many good farms. The settlers now moving in are superior, as a class, to those who settled here at an earlier day. At Chatsworth, fifteen miles west of Gilman, there is a large beet-root sugar manufactory. The land north and south of this point is very fine and rolling. The Company has now for sale about 40,000 acres, a large portion from \$7.00 to \$9.00 per acre, the remainder from \$10.00 to \$14.00, and a few tracts at higher prices. These lands are in Kankakee, Iroquois, Livingston, and Ford Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 27.)

**Bulkley**, 93 miles from Chicago, is in a very healthy location, surrounded by a thrifty agricultural community. It has considerable trade, and, having the advantage of

being within the region of Artesian wells, it is destined to become a place of considerable importance. The land in this neighborhood is well adapted to stock-raising, as well as grain cultivation, being watered by a number of small streams and Artesian wells. The present population of Bulkley village is 250. It has four general stores, two drug-stores, two blacksmith-shops, one wagon and plow factory, one harness-shop, one boot and shoe shop, one flouring-mill, and one hotel. Preparations are making for opening a large number of new farms the coming season. It is contemplated to prospect for coal, Bulkley being in the coal-section which extends from La Salle to Danville. Considerable quantities of grain are shipped from here, and altogether the place has a lively appearance. A Methodist and a Congregational church have been built; and there is also a school, at which 75 children are in daily attendance. A new public schoolhouse, to cost \$5,000, will be built this season. A planing-mill here is fitted up with improved machinery. The grain elevator, with corn-sheller attached, is worked by steam power. A considerable number of the denomination of Friends are settling in this vicinity, and are making valuable improvements. They have just erected a meeting-house. Flax is cultivated largely, and it is estimated that 2,000 acres in the immediate vicinity of the station are devoted to its culture. 15,000 bushels of flax-seed were shipped from here in the months of August and September last. In the last year the shipments from this station included 34,000 bushels corn, 2,461 beef-cattle, 2,490 hogs, and 2,000 lbs. wool.

**Loda**, an incorporated town of 1,200 inhabitants, 99 miles south of Chicago, is in the centre of the "Grand Prairie," which at this point is remarkably beautiful and undulating. The Spring-Creek timber, skirting the town on the west and north, adds much to the beauty of the location. Both town and county are being rapidly settled by an intelligent and thrifty class of people, mostly from the Eastern States. As a point for business, the facilities are not excelled in the rural districts; and the healthfulness and beauty of the country, with the excellent neighborhood, form great inducements to those seeking Western homes with Eastern comforts. There are three established churches, — Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational, — and a society of United Presbyterians intend erecting a church in the course of the present year. An excellent graded school is attended by about 250 pupils. Here are fifteen stores, one hotel, four blacksmith-shops, harness-shop, wagon-shop, cabinet-shop, sawing and turning shop, lumber and coal yard, and carpenters, masons, etc. The largest distillery in the State is located here, and receives most of the grain raised in the vicinity. There is also a large sorghum-factory, capable of making 1,000 gallons sirup daily. A brick-yard, using Gard's patent machine, furnishes good brick at very reasonable rates. No houses for the sale of liquor are licensed in the place. The soil is rich and adapted to growing fruit, grain, or grass. Stock-raising is extensively carried on in this vicinity. The never-failing Artesian wells furnish an abundant supply of pure water. Two extensive cheese-factories are in operation; and the ease with which dairymen can take care of their stock, on the extensive ranges of open prairie, makes this a very profitable pursuit. Many new farms were put under cultivation last year, and a number of new-comers are preparing to open farms the present season. The shipments from Loda last year include 1,750 hogs, 414 beef-cattle, 220 horses and mules, 7,260 bbls. whiskey, and 8,000 bushels grain.

**Paxton**, the county seat of Ford County, is 103 miles from Chicago, and 48 miles east of Bloomington. Population, 2,000. The place is of recent settlement, and its growth has been remarkably rapid. Paxton contains four churches, ten dry-goods stores, two hardware-stores, three drug-stores, five grocery-stores, two grain elevators, two hotels,<sup>4</sup> flouring-mill, plough-factory, cultivator-factory, three wagon-factories, two nurseries, a bank, a printing-office, and mechanics' shops of every variety. The schools are excellent. There is a graded school for boys, with four teachers and nearly 300 scholars; a seminary

for young ladies; and a Swedish college, called the "Augustana College of North America," — to which the King of Sweden has presented a library of 5,000 volumes. A good many Swedes have settled in this neighborhood. They are intelligent, industrious, and exceedingly prosperous. The court-house is a fine stone structure, with a jail in the basement. There are numerous indications of coal, and the experiment of boring for it will be carried on through the coming year. It is estimated that three hundred new farms were opened up for cultivation last year. Farmers are turning their attention to sheep and stock raising. Osage orange is cultivated in the nurseries, and supplied to the farmers for hedges, and during the last year some hundreds of miles of the Osage hedge were planted. Westward from Paxton and Loda is the celebrated farm of Michael Sullivant, comprising 40,000 acres, and upon which are more than two hundred miles of Osage hedge, in good growing condition. Mr. Sullivant designs making this the best, as it is the most extensive, stock-farm in the West. In the last year the shipments from Paxton were as follows: 150,150 bushels corn, 9,950 bushels wheat, 8,700 bushels oats, 4,100 lbs. wool, 2,527 beef-cattle, 2,006 sheep, and 2,290 hogs.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.*—

This region is almost entirely open prairie; there is some timber in groves, but it is not abundant. West of Bulkley the land is rolling and well adapted for grain; to the east, the land is lower, but of the best quality for stock and tame grass. In the vicinity of Loda, to the west, the land is high and good, and also at Paxton, where a large portion of the prairie, west, is of good quality for corn, which is the staple crop here. In 1862, these three stations shipped of corn alone 191,190 bushels. This district is recommended to those who wish to engage in the raising of cattle, hogs, or sheep, the soil in all parts being excellent for wild or tame grass; and is also recommended to those of comparatively little means who wish to procure a small prairie farm of good land at low price, with an ample range for their stock on unoccupied land. Artesian wells can be had at almost every point by boring 50 to 150 feet, and at a cost of from \$35.00 to \$150.00. The water is of uniform temperature, slightly impregnated with iron, and is invaluable for stock. The Company had a large quantity of land here originally. 37,000 acres are yet for sale, at prices ranging from \$7.00 to \$15.00 per acre, — the larger portion, over four miles from the road, at \$7.00 to \$10.00. These lands lie in Iroquois, Ford, and Vermilion Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 28.)

*Pera*, is 108½ miles south of Chicago. The present population is 300. The place is situated in the midst of a fine prairie, watered by the Vermilion and Sangamon Rivers. It contains a schoolhouse, two dry-goods stores, two grocery-stores, drug-store, two boot and shoe shops, sorghum-mill, blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop, and hotel. The shipments from this station in 1867 were 69,500 bushels corn, 5,500 bushels oats, 54,864 lbs. seeds, 13,700 lbs. wool, and 1,600 gallons molasses.

*Rantoul* is a pretty village, 114 miles south of Chicago, and 14 north of Champaign. The land is rolling prairie, watered by the Sangamon and the Big Vermilion, and is superior for stock raising and grazing. Large crops of corn are produced, and fruits of all kinds do well. The place has a population of about 800, and is steadily increasing. It has two schoolhouses, — one of them for a "graded" school, just completed at a cost of \$6,000, and capable of accommodating 300 scholars; one church (Congregational), built

last year, — while the Methodists, Roman-Catholics, and Baptists purpose to build the coming season. There is a grain warehouse, flouring-mill, planing-mill, two lumber-yards, seven stores, two blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, two shoe-shops, tin-shop, harness-shop, hotel, and livery-stable. One hundred new farms were opened in this neighborhood last year. The shipments for 1867 were: corn, 77,480 bushels; other grain, 10,000 bushels; wool, 15,300 lbs.; 6,000 bushels of flax-seed, 10,000 lbs. of broom-corn, 1,081 head of cattle, 2,500 hogs, and 2,175 sheep. A large portion of the stock fattened in this neighborhood upon the grain raised here is driven to market, so that the preceding figures (showing as they do only the shipments by the railroad) give but a faint idea of the extent of the stock business. The Company has large quantities of land for sale in the vicinity.

*Thomasboro'*, 119 miles south of Chicago, is a new station, started in May, 1864. Since that time, Mr. Thomas, who owns the land immediately about the station, has built a good residence, a warehouse for corn, a boarding-house, one permanent hay-barn with hay-press, and he is about erecting another for the same use. This is in a good district for corn, meadow, and pasture; and, being only nine miles from Champaign, the county town, where land is selling at high figures, the farms about this station must settle up rapidly. The great drawback heretofore has been the want of a station and good roads to the railway. There is a large grove of timber within three and a half miles of this place. The settlers in the vicinity are principally from Pennsylvania and Ohio, with some Germans.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

A considerable portion of the country in this vicinity, near the railroad, is good grass and meadow land. At over three miles from the road, on either side, the land is higher, and a large portion of it of the first quality. This region is lately attracting much attention for stock-raising, and more lands have been sold since the first of January than at any corresponding time previously, and a number of large farms are being started this spring. There is some timber to be purchased of individuals on the banks of the Vermilion on the east, and the Sangamon on the west. Owing to the large amount of vacant land, that which the Company owns has not, as yet, been placed as high as in many localities where the country is more thickly settled, but where the land is not of so good quality. The Company has 44,000 acres still for sale, a large portion at \$8.00 to \$10.00 per acre, the remainder generally from \$11.00 to \$14.00, — a few tracts at higher prices. These lands are in Champaign County, and are recommended to those who wish to buy good prairie land at low prices, in a rapidly improving country. The Company has recently undertaken some extensive drainage operations, the benefits of which are so manifest that the lands are now meeting with ready sale. A wide and deep ditch, running through the low lands west of the Sangamon, has been dug at the expense of the Railway Company; and, witnessing the good results of this, individual proprietors will undoubtedly make similar improvements.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 29.)

*Champaign*, 128 miles south of Chicago, is one of the most flourishing towns upon the line of the Illinois Central Railroad. It is a place of great and increasing trade, and at this time has 1,100 dwelling-houses and upwards of 5,000 inhabitants. Some of the best farms in the State are in this township, and all the country about is highly im-

proved. Two miles eastward is Urbana, the seat of justice of Champaign County. The two cities are connected by a street railway. Champaign has nine churches, viz., Presbyterian (a handsome brick edifice, the cost of which was \$35,000), Methodist, Congregational, Roman-Catholic, two Baptist, two German, and one colored; two public schoolhouses, large structures, each having several departments, and accommodating, in the aggregate, twelve hundred children; and a young ladies' seminary, having about thirty pupils; four grain warehouses with steam elevators, two agricultural warehouses, five hotels, four newspapers, a national and a private bank, four lumber-yards, two coal-yards, two hay-presses, two broom-corn presses, two planing-mills, woollen-mill, flouring-mill, six blacksmith-shops, three carriage-factories, two furniture-factories, two harness-shops, four livery-stables, and upwards of fifty stores for the sale of every description of merchandise. The Illinois Industrial College, located midway between Champaign and Urbana, was opened for students on the 2d of March, 1868. This institution, established for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts, was endowed by the General Government with 480,000 acres of the public land, and, by the county of Champaign, private individuals, and corporations, with buildings, land, and other property, of the aggregate value of \$450,000, — exceeding in amount the cash value of the original gift by Congress. Each county in the State is entitled to one honorary scholarship, for the benefit of the descendants of soldiers who served in the army of the United States during the late war. Prize scholarships have been endowed by counties, and a lively interest is manifested throughout the State in all that relates to the success of the institution. In the last year the shipments from this station exceeded 24,000 tons weight, comprising 415,630 bushels corn, 111,770 bushels oats, 49,580 bushels wheat, 10,200 bushels rye, 16,400 bushels barley, 2,803 beef-cattle, 13,216 hogs, 3,531 sheep, and 120,200 lbs. wool. A railroad is in progress to Bloomington and Danville, and another to Decatur, making this a great railroad centre, and the market for all the surrounding country. There is a coal vein here.

*Savoy*, a new station, in the midst of a fine agricultural and well-improved country, is located  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles south from Champaign. Extensive nurseries are located in this vicinity.

*Tolono*, 137 miles south of Chicago, at the intersection of the Illinois Central and the Great Western Railroads, has a population of 1,000. Two sorghum-mills were in use during the past season; and a flouring-mill, erected in 1864, has just been put in operation. There are two churches in the place, — Roman-Catholic and Presbyterian; two schoolhouses, the average attendance at the schools being 375; three grain warehouses, all of which are worked by steam; two hotels and six stores. Considerable land in the immediate vicinity was sold during the last summer and fall, generally to actual settlers from Ohio and Indiana; and a large increase is anticipated in the breadth of land cultivated the coming year. A number of dwelling-houses and stores are now in course of building. The place has somewhat improved within the last year, and, being situated in the midst of a fine farming district, and at the crossing of the two railroads, gives promise of rapid advancement. The land lying west has latterly attracted much attention for the raising of cattle, hogs, sheep, &c., to which it is well adapted. Large shipments are made from this station: in the last year, by the Illinois Central Railroad, 78,100 bushels wheat, 73,210 bushels corn, 24,350 bushels oats, 10,800 bushels barley, 2,535 bbls. flour, 54,800 lbs. wool, 326,400 lbs. hides, 410 horses and mules, 6,310 beef cattle, 8,195 sheep, and 36,400 hogs. As regards stock shipments, Tolono takes the lead of all the stations upon this road; but a considerable portion of the live stock sent to Chicago is drawn from the Great Western Railroad, which crosses the Illinois Central at this point.

*Pesotum*, 14 miles south of Champaign. The country about here is in the highest degree fertile and well-wooded, and at least twenty new farms were brought under culti-

vation last year. A considerable number of fruit-trees were planted. A large amount of stock is raised in this neighborhood. The farmers are mainly from Ohio, Indiana, and Western Illinois. The wool-clip last year amounted to 6,000 lbs. At the station there are three stores, Masonic and Good Templars Halls, blacksmith-shop, hotel, and drug-store. The school numbers about 150 scholars. There are two religious denominations, Methodist and Roman-Catholic; and a Union church in the township. Population, 400. The shipments by railroad last year included 19,800 bushels grain, 4,000 lbs. wool, and 650 hogs.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

About Champaign, the land is very high and rolling. From five to ten miles west of here, the Company has still a few thousand acres for sale, at from \$8.00 to \$11.00 per acre, according to quality and location. West of Savoy, and north of Sadorus, on the Great Western Railroad, the Company has for sale a large body of land at \$8.00 to \$12.00 and upwards per acre. Some portion of this land is flat; but the soil is excellent, and of the best description for a stock-farm, and for pasturage and hay. West of Pesotum, the land is excellent but level. Nearer the railroad, and to the east, the land is generally higher, and good for corn, wheat, oats, &c. The prices are higher, ranging from \$10.00 to \$13.00, at a distance from the railroad, and from \$13.00 to \$16.00 and upwards for lands convenient to the stations. There is quite an amount of timber on the banks of the three or four considerable streams that water this district. The lands now for sale by the Company are entirely prairie, of which it has about 26,000 acres in this region. These lands are in Champaign and Piatt Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 30.)

*Tuscola*, 150 miles south from Chicago, is the county seat of Douglas County. It was laid out in 1857, when the first house was built. At the present time, it contains four hundred and fifty dwelling-houses and a population of two thousand souls. There are in this place four churches (Methodist, Presbyterian, Campbellite, and Baptist); a large brick schoolhouse, where as many as four hundred children are taught the English branches, and the materials are already upon the ground for another schoolhouse, larger than the old one; four hotels, in arrangement and management second to none in Central Illinois; three elevators worked by steam, with the prospect that another will be erected this season; a flouring-mill with three run of burs; a newspaper printing-office; eight dry-goods stores, doing a large retail trade; fourteen grocery-stores; four drug-stores; one boot and shoe store; two hardware-stores; three clothing-stores; two agricultural-implement stores; two book-stores; two stove and tin stores; two furniture-stores; one bank; two lumber-yards; and sixteen mechanic-shops. A nursery and fruit-farm adjoining the town is under a fair state of cultivation. The farmers are becoming wide awake to the importance of fruit-culture, and thousands of trees are planted annually. They are also taking great interest in the subject of drainage, and several miles of drains were cut last summer and autumn. A good deal of attention is given to the town roads. The courthouse, a brick and stone structure, is a very handsome building, hardly equalled by any edifice of the kind in this part of the State. The surrounding country is wonderfully fertile, and is rapidly filling up with an industrious, energetic, and thrifty population. The surplus products sent away to market last year were these: 194,650 bushels corn, 16,800 bushels oats, 7,100 bushels wheat and rye, 455 barrels flour, 895 bushels potatoes, 563 beef cattle, 950 sheep, and 6,210 hogs.

**Okaw** (P. O., Arcola), 158 miles south of Chicago, was organized in 1855, and contains, as per last census, 1,675 inhabitants. In an agricultural district unsurpassed in richness of soil, and with superior facilities for transportation, the place shows signs of present prosperity and growing importance. Fifty dwelling-houses have been erected during the past year. There are six churches in the town, — Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Congregational, and Christian, — and two large schoolhouses, where instruction is given to 300 pupils. The business of the place is considerable. There are three hotels, two flouring-mills, one woollen-factory, three grain warehouses and elevators, four boot and shoe stores, seventeen grocery-stores, seven dry-goods stores, two furniture-stores, two drug-stores, two harness-shops, two butcher-shops, three blacksmith-shops, two agricultural warehouses, two coal and two lumber yards. The number of new farms opened and to be put under cultivation this spring is, by careful count, seventy. The shipments last year were as follows : 305,850 bushels corn, 28,930 bushels wheat, 23,000 bushels oats, 7,500 bushels wheat and barley, 1,635 bushels potatoes, 2,782 hogs, 445 beef-cattle, 450 sheep, and 1,900 pounds wool.

*General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.*—

At an early day this region attracted the attention of settlers, from the richness and great productiveness of the soil ; and the larger portion of the Company's lands near the railroad were long since sold. There is a great abundance of timber on the Kaskaskia and Embarras Rivers, and the surrounding country is thickly settled with a prosperous and well-to-do population ; the improvements in the way of buildings, fences, &c., are of a very substantial character. Large numbers of sheep are grown in this region, and much capital is invested in cattle, hogs, &c. There is no better district in the State for wheat, corn, oats, tame grasses, &c. There are thousands of acres in the immediate vicinity of the railroad laid down in blue-grass and timothy. The hay-crop here is a very large and very profitable one. Improved farms have been sold during the past year at as high prices as in any part of the State. The lands which the Company has still for sale embrace about 13,000 acres, and consist generally of the flatter tracts, or those from ten to fifteen miles from the stations, and are recommended more particularly for stock and grass. These are offered at prices ranging from \$8.00 to \$15.00, and a few tracts at still higher prices. The larger portion, over ten miles from the stations, is offered at \$3.00 to \$11.00. The Company have two entire sections, once improved, and now in blue-grass and timothy, to sell on reasonable terms. These lands are in Douglas and Moultrie Counties.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 31.)

**Milton** (P. O., Milton Station), 164 miles south from Chicago, has 310 inhabitants by a recent enumeration. Twenty dwelling-houses were erected during the last season. There are at the station nine stores, four warehouses, and one hotel. The schoolhouse accommodates about 150 pupils. The surrounding country cannot be excelled in the production of corn, wheat, oats, barley, vegetables, grass, &c. Almost all of the Company's lands in this vicinity have been sold, and improved by the purchasers. The shipments from this station last year were 163,500 bushels corn, 8,700 bushels oats, 1,091 bbls. flour, and 1,121 hogs.

**Mattoon**, situated at the crossing of the Illinois Central and the Terre Haute, Alton, and St. Louis Railroads, 173 miles south of Chicago, and 130 miles east of St. Louis, is

one of the most prosperous towns in this part of the State. At the present time, it has a population of 4,500, and is growing rapidly. Many new dwelling-houses were built during the last year, and also several brick business-blocks. The country is well settled up, and the county (Coles) is very fertile, and produces immense crops of grain particularly Indian corn. There are seven churches in the town, — three Presbyterian, one Methodist, one Baptist, one Christian, and one Roman Catholic. The schools are good and well attended. Four large public schoolhouses are completed. One of the finest elevators in the State, outside of Chicago, was erected here last year. The grain-business is very large, and employs four steam elevators. There are four hotels in the place, and another will be erected this season, designed to be the best in this part of the State; a National Bank, with a capital of \$100,000; a printing-office; three newspapers; thirty stores of all kinds, — dry-goods, groceries, hardware, drugs, &c., — and, counting flouring, woollen, and planing mills, and blacksmith-shops, twenty-one manufacturing establishments. The surrounding country is all settled, and lands command very high prices. A large business is done in the raising and packing of cattle and hogs. Recently much attention is given to sheep, which, it is claimed, thrive better here than in any other portion of the country. The winters are so much shorter and milder than in the Eastern States, that the cattle and sheep come out stronger in the spring, and the cost of wintering is much less. This country has the advantage of four markets, — Chicago, Cairo, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. During the last year the shipments from this station (including transshipment from the junction road) by the Illinois Central Railroad were as follows: 480,200 bushels corn, 37,300 bushels wheat, 54,400 bushels oats, 17,833 bbls. flour, 3,526 bbls. lard, 500 bbls. pork, 184,000 lbs. wool, 570 tons hides, 1,537 horses and mules, 1,415 beeves, 3,075 sheep, 6,399 hogs, 2,410,000 lbs. tobacco, and 145,700 lbs. cotton.

*Etna*, 179 miles from Chicago, is situated in the midst of fine rolling prairie, well adapted for fruit and sheep raising. There was a large increase last year in the acreage of cultivated land, and an immense number of fruit-trees were planted. At Alma village there is one house of worship, used alternately by the church-goers of the Methodist, Missionary Baptist, Cumberland Presbyterian, and Christian denominations, and by the lodge of Freemasons; one schoolhouse has been built, and the site has been selected for another, which will be commenced at an early day; two stores which do a general trade; two grain-warehouses, hotel, drug-store, grocery, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, and two shoe-shops. The shipments of grain from this station last year amounted to 24,000 bushels.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate.—*

This is one of the best farming districts in Illinois; the land is high and rolling, and the soil very deep, black, and rich. There is an abundance of timber, and the country is well watered. Most of the Company's lands have been sold; a few tracts still remain for sale, at prices varying widely, according to quality and location. There are about 3,000 acres of partially timbered lands on the Embarras and Kaskaskia Rivers for sale, at from \$9.00 to \$11.00 per acre. These lands are in Coles County.

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(SEE OUTLINE MAP, PLATE 32.)

*Neoga*, midway between Chicago and Cairo, has 85 houses and 500 inhabitants. There are two churches (New School Presbyterian and Methodist) in the village, and three

others within a distance of four miles, to wit, Methodist, Christian, and Friends. A graded school has been established, — number of pupils enrolled, 150: During the last year, ten new farms were opened. The town contains nine stores, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, two flouring-mills, two drug-stores, two hotels, two millinery-shops, two harness-shops, one furniture-store, and one hay-press. Amount of wool clipped last year, 4,000 lbs.; fruit-trees planted, 400. The shipments of produce from this station last year were 94,980 bushels corn, 3,900 bushels wheat, 3,600 bushels oats, and 3,051 hogs.

*Sigel* (P. O., Hooker) is 191 miles south from Chicago. The place is only four years old, yet its population already exceeds 400. It contains ninety dwelling-houses, two churches (Roman Catholic and Lutheran), a schoolhouse, five dry-goods and grocery stores, two hotels, steam flouring-mill, bell-foundry, two wagon-shops, three blacksmith-shops, and two boot and shoe stores. The population of Sigel, as well as that of the surrounding country, is principally German. The land in the neighborhood is high, rolling prairie, well watered, with timber in abundance, and is well adapted to all kinds of grain and fruit, as well as to stock-raising. Fifteen new farms were opened last year. 26,800 bushels corn, 3,400 bushels wheat, 2,400 bushels oats, 1,269 live hogs, 95,300 lbs. dressed pork, 139 beef-cattle, and 175 sheep were sent to market from this station last year.

*Effingham*, the county seat of Effingham County, is 199 miles from Chicago, and 100 miles from St. Louis. The contemplated Atlantic and Mississippi Railroad, being a direct and nearly air-line road from St. Louis to Terre Haute, is located through this place, and has several miles of its track already completed. The old National Road, from Cumberland, Md., to St. Louis, also passes here, and makes this town the centre of trade for quite an extensive country. The estimated population of Effingham is 2,200. The city contains three steam flouring-mills, two steam saw-mills, two lumber-yards, three harness-shops, four boot and shoe shops, one cabinet-maker's shop, four blacksmith-shops, two wagon-shops, ten dry-goods stores, six groceries, four drug-stores, three furniture-stores, three hardware and two clothing stores, five warehouses, a steam woollen-factory in full operation, a marble-yard, and two printing-offices, from which are issued "The Register," a Republican paper, and "The Gazette," a Democratic paper. There were erected during the last year as many as twenty-five substantial buildings, nearly all of brick. Building materials are abundant. The bricks made here are of an excellent quality; stone is found within half a mile of the town; and oak as well as walnut timber is plenty. There are three brick churches, — Methodist, Baptist, and Roman Catholic; and the Christian denomination has also one in progress. Four good hotels are located near the railway depot. Two schoolhouses of brick, and one of wood, have been completed within a few years. This section is also noted for its fruit, and particularly for peaches, pears, and grapes. Within three-fourths of a mile of the town there are fifty acres of bearing fruit-trees, — mostly peach. The price of property is advancing, and immigration to the city and the country around is steadily increasing. During the last season thirty new farms were opened near Effingham. In the last year the shipments from this station were as follows: 51,750 bushels corn, 8,650 bushels wheat, 3,700 bushels oats, 1,013 bbls. pork, 1,291 bbls. lard, 3,350 hogs, 330 beef-cattle, and 225 sheep.

#### *General Description of the District embraced in the Plate. —*

In going south from Chicago, the timber is here first found in abundance. Through this district the prairies are small, and in about equal quantity with the timber, which consists of all the varieties of hard wood. The soil here is of a lighter shade than farther north, and is considered the best for winter-wheat. Wheat, oats, rye, corn, sweet-potatoes, to-

bacco, stock, wool, and hogs are all raised with profit. There is a large German population in this district, who are an intelligent, enterprising, and thrifty class, and who, having for the most part settled here within the last three years, have already substantial improvements and good farms. Many Eastern people have also settled here. The Company has for sale about 17,000 acres, at from \$7.00 to \$13.00 and \$15.00 per acre, — a large portion at the lower figures. These lands are in Shelby, Cumberland, and Effingham Counties.













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